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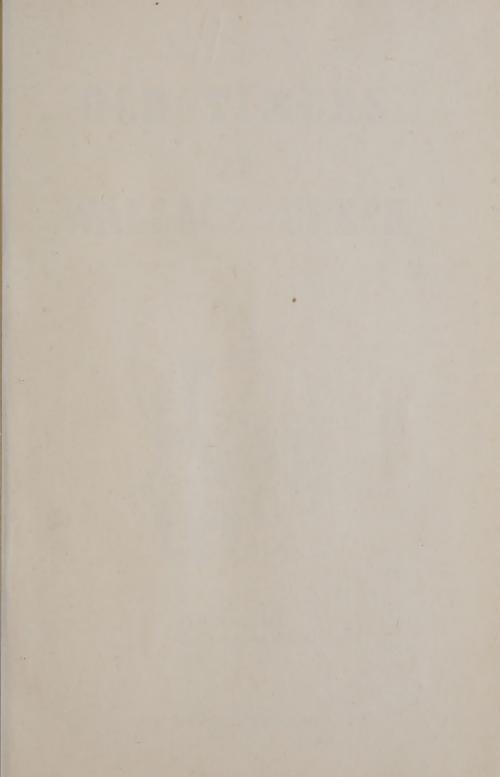
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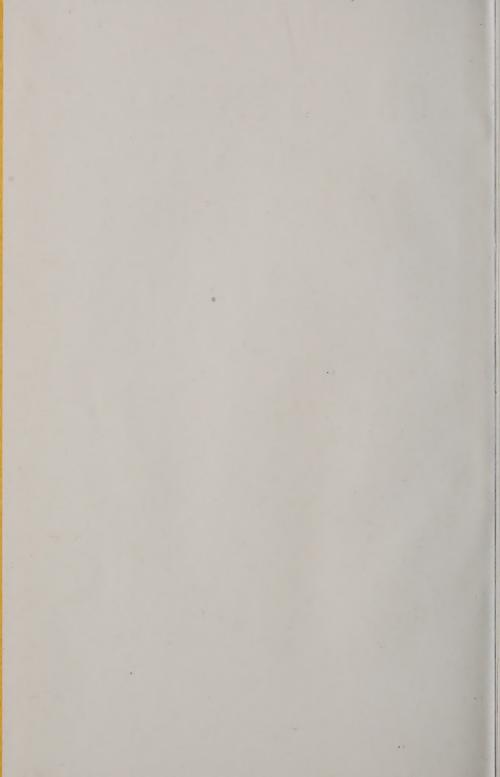


OLD TIMERS of WALLACE CREEK









OLD TIMERS of WALLACE CREEK



By JYM A. SLOAN San Saba, Texas Allen County Public Library 900 Webster Street PO Box 2270 Fort Wayne, IN 46801-2270



JYM A. SLOAN

INTRODUCTION

In introducing my readers to OLD TIMERS OF WAL-LACE CREEK I feel that what one of her old timers had to say about that fair country presents a picture so striking and so true that I am persuaded to adopt a large portion of it in this Introduction. Here, in part, is what he says:

"When the hand of Destiny created San Saba county, and especially Wallace Creek, He did everything necessary to be done to create a beautiful, abounding and abiding country, fair to look upon and lovely in all of its appointments. When Divinity finished the work, man, feeble creature that he is, could add nothing to it—could take nothing from it. Her mountains and her vales, her rivers and her springs were there for his use and his benefit, and so her first settlers must have found it a country beyond compare.

"In 1855 when Mr. Harkey (Mathias), father of Riley, Billie and Israel and Levi Harkey, first looked upon the valley of Wallace Creek it must have been a valley of enchantment, because he then and there determined to make it his home, and soon the rude cabins of one or two or three of the first pioneers of the wilderness was erected. — Down through the years this family has borne an honored name in the history of San Saba County."

Of all our early Texans, there was one of our first early statesmen, and one of the ablest of the Presidents of the Republic of Texas, that loved the hills and valleys of San Saba more than any other part of Texas, Mireabeau B. Lamar. Reference is made to his speech made to the Senate of the Republic of Texas Nov. 9th, 1837. When Lamar speaks of the hills and vales of San Saba I am quite sure he means to mark the spot of dear Old Wallace Creek, because within the confines of San Saba County there is no spot that in all of Nature's splendor and the prodigality of beauty that can compare to Wallace as the ideal home of man. Fact is it MOUT have been the original Garden of Eden. Who knows or can dispute it?

Wallace (formerly Spring) Creek has had a momentous historic and glamorous record in the dim past. The weird war-drums of the Indians on the warpath have rolled on the San Saba. Around the big spring at the head of Wallace Creek have gathered the Indians of the border to light their council fires and plan their depredations on the white settlers of the lovely land. Here, too, has come the frontiersman clad in the weatherbeaten, frayed and worn buckskin garb of the old west, armed with the "long rifle" of deadly precision; it was the resort of the mountain lion, the lobo wolf and the coyote and the remudas of wild horses, which Lamar spoke of, made it their stamping ground.

At this spring, the head waters of Wallace Creek, on December 10th, 1850, the United States Government, through the Military arm, concluded a Treaty of Peace with the Indian Nations or tribes of Texas. — The Treaty stones have been removed to the Texas Memorial Museum at Austin. They ought to be returned to their proper place. In the first place they were National Monuments and it was against the Federal law to remove them. they were survey markers, recognized as such by the State land laws, and it is contrary to the State law to remove any land boundary marker. Of course, at the time, these things were never thought of, but, just the same, the markers ought to go back to the head spring at Wallace. The Treaty Rocks became a land corner in 1855, just four years after the Treaty was signed. No stream in Texas holds so much history within its course as does this small unpretentious creek." NOTE: For a full text of the Treaty mentioned above, see the biography of Thomas Wilson, this volume.

Soon after San Saba County was organized and the county began to settle up the land owners of Wallace Creek organized an irrigation project; and proposed to irrigate land along the creek. Starting at the head spring a ditch. to carry the water, was started and completed for some distance at a gradient that would carry the water by gravity over the proposed area to be irrigated. After a time the proposed water users were about to get into a serious dispute as to priority rights of the water. There was in the community a Missionary Baptist preacher, who for the good of the community, prayed that, before the peace and harmony of the community should be torn asunder, the spring dry up. Not long afterwards the spring did dry up to a large extent. All irrigation was a thing of the past. — Rev. Claybough was the preacher's name, who ended the irrigation row on Wallace Creek. — "I want to say this for those people who were the pioneers of Wallace Creek, and their children, by reason of the scattered settlements and the isolation of environment, their little world was confined to those on both sides of the creek, and among their neighbors their life work was largely done. Here they shared the joys and sorrows of their neighbors; they "set up" with the sick: they buried their dead; if one of their number was in trouble, sorrow or distress, the rest of the folks went immediately to that one and let it be known that they were there to help in any way on earth that they could. They meant it. It was not double talk. Nothing could cheer a neighbor in distress like the fact his people all around him were suffering with him. They were plain country folks but hearts of gold beat in their breasts, and no country ever raised a people who made better citizens than those who populated old Wallace. They read their Bibles, they carried a Sharp's rifle to defend their rights, if need be, they took their religion and their politics seriously, and every man did his own thinking under his own hat. They raised their children to be respectful to their elders, and woe betide that boy or girl that gave "sass" to Pa or Ma. A hickory switch or a peach tree sprout was applied to the posterior anatomy of said child, and such application was frequent and painful and free, and as a usual thing one application of the birch went a long way in making a model child."

The old timer of Wallace Creek that we have so generously quoted in this Introduction, and who has so profusely sounded the praises of Wallace Creek and her pioneer settlers, is none other than the late James Albert King, son of the noted Methodist Circuit Rider, James A. King, Sr., who lived at an early day on Wallace Creek, and preached the Gospel to the pioneers of San Saba County and adjoining counties, and who, no doubt, made more young couples happy by pronouncing them man and wife than any preacher ever to come within our boundaries. He was San Saba's Tax Assessor in 1878. Rev. James A. King is listed in this volume as an Old Timer of Wallace Creek.



MRS. KATIE B. SLOAN

THOMAS WILSON, subject of this sketch, was born April 11th, 1820, in South Carolina, and deceased Dec. 10th, 1919, at his home on head of Wallace Creek, San Saba county, Tex. His parents were natives of South Carolina, also.

MARGERET D. WILSON, wife of Thomas Wilson, was native to South Carolina, having been born there Jan. 10th, 1821. Her father was a native son of Kentucky, but her mother originated in South Carolina. She died at Wilson home, on Wallace Creek, Jan. 10th, 1898, on her 87th birthday. She and husband rest in Wallace Creek Cemetery.

It is thought that the Thomas Wilson family came direct from South Carolina to Comanche county, Tex., and settled, living there for some years, and in the early 1870's moving to Wallace Creek, San Saba county, Tex., bought a small tract of land, upon which was erected the family home. The "Treaty Ground" is located upon this tract of land. It is Survey No. 104 in the name of Ludwic Borches, and it was Dec. 10th, 1850, that John H. Rollins, Special Agent for the United States of America, and the Indians of Texas, drew up Articles of Peace between the United States Government and the Indian tribes of Texas. Further on in this sketch will be found a complete copy of this Treaty.

LONESOME DOVE SCHOOL. In 1870 Lonesome Dove School was organized, and Thomas Wilson, - Sedwick and Matt R. Mann were appointed its Trustees. The school house stood near what is now the San Saba-Pontotoc road where it crosses Wallace Creek, very near the mouth of Latham Creek. Later this school was called Pebbly Point School, April 2nd, 1867, the County Court divided San Saba county into 10 School Districts, and in April, 1871, the Court sub-divided Districts No.'s 2, 3, 4, and by 1877 (possibly a little later) the 10 School Districts had been subdivided into 25 Precincts, representing neighborhood communities and called by its community name; as for instance. Rock Shoales (later Sloan) Community Rock Shoales School, Teachers were employed by the school Trustees and received their pay from the school patrons by subscription —each patron paying his pro rata according to the number

of children he had in school. The teacher usually boarded with a patron whose home was near the school house, and paid for his board and lodging out of his small salary. The State Legislature had enacted a law authorizing the organization of these Community School Districts, also providing that the school Trustees furnish a written statement as to the kind of house, its condition, furnishings, drinking water and names of Trustees. This statement went on the County Commissioners' Record. This Record states that Lonesome Dove School House was a one room building 14 x 16 feet in dimension, hewn picket walls, split board covering and valued at \$50.00. In later years a pine boxing lumber building took the place of the old picket one, and its name changed to Pebbly Point.

As to when Thomas and Margeret Wilson became husband and wife this writer has been unable to find any record.

Children of Thomas and Margerett Wilson were five in number, three girls and two boys. 1, Amanda Wilson, born 1860, deceased; Sarah Wilson, born in 1862, deceased; 3rd, Robert Lee Wilson, born 1864, married — Worsham of Mason county, Tex.; he worked with livestock and dug dirt tanks, deceased. The other two children, James and Betsy Jane Wilson, we have not their birth or death record. James Wilson's home was in Comanche county, and he visited his parents on Wallace Creek about once a year.

TREATY GROUND AND TREATY OF PEACE BETWEEN U. S. GOVERNMENT AND TEXAS INDIANS. The "Treaty Ground" is in a small mesquite flat a few hundred yards east of head waters of Wallace Creek. It is situated on Survey No. 104 in the name of Ludwig Borches and at present time (1955) owned by Emmett Kuykendall. The Treaty Rocks that originally marked the spot upon which Special Agent John H. Rollins, representing the U. S. Government, made a Treaty of Peace with the various Chiefs of all the Indian tribes of Texas, Dec. 10th, 1850, are now held by the Texas Memorial Museum at Austin, Texas. These stones, so far as their shape is concerned, are just as nature made them, are two in number, and were engraved by J. DeLaney.

ARTICLES OF TREATY

Made and concluded on Spring Creek, near the river San Saba, this the 10th day of December, A.D., 1850, between John H. Rollins, Special Agent of the U.S. for the Indians of Texas, acting for the United States on the one part, and the undersigned Chiefs, Warriors, Captains and councilors for themselves and for those under their control and acknowledging their authority, on the other part.

Witnesseth:

Article 1st

The undersigned Chiefs, warriors, captains and councilors for themselves and for those under their control and subject to their authority, do hereby acknowledge themselves to be under the jurisdiction and protection of the United States of America, and of no other power, State or Sovereignty, whatsoever.

Article 2nd

It is stipulated and agreed by the Indians, parties hereto, that the Government of the United States shall have the sole and exclusive right of regulating trade and intercourse with them, and they do hereby respectively engage to afford protection to such persons, with their property as shall be duly authorized to reside among them for the purpose of trade and intercourse, and to their agents and servants; but no person shall be permitted to reside among them as a trader, or introduce goods into the Indian country who is not furnished license for that purpose, according to the laws of the United States, to the end that the said Indians may not be imposed upon in their trade; and if any licensed trader shall abuse his privilege by unfair trading, upon complaint by said Chiefs to their Agent, and proof thereof, his license shall be taken from him, and he shall be further punished according to law; and if any trader shall intrude himself as a trader or introduce goods into the Indian country without such license, upon complaint, be dealt with according to law, and the goods so introduced shall be forfeited to the Indians giving the information, who shall have the right to take into possession and keep such goods until said matter is investigated.

Article 3rd

And said Indians, parties hereto, are now, and agree forever to remain at peace with the United States.

Article 4th

The said tribes or nations, parties to this treaty, are anxious to be at peace with all nations of people, with whom the United States are at peace and it is agreed that the President shall use his exertion in such manner as he shall think proper to preserve friendly relations between the different tribes or nations, parties to this treaty, and all other nations of people.

Article 5th

And the said tribes or nations agree to remain friendly with such tribes as now at peace with the United States, residing upon the waters of the Arkansas, Missouri and Red rivers.

Article 6th

The said Indians, parties hereto, pledge themselves to give notice to the Agent of the United States residing near them, of any designs which they may know or suspect to be formed in any neighboring tribes or any person whatsoever against the peace and interests of the United States.

Article 7th

It is agreed that if any Indian or Indians shall commit murder or robbery or steal anything from any citizen of the United States the tribe or band to which the offender belongs, shall deliver up the person or persons so offending to the officer commanding at Fort Martin Scott, to the end that he or they may be punished, if found guilty of murder, with death, and if found guilty of robbery or stealing, according to law. In like manner, if any citizen or subject of the United States shall commit murder or robbery on any Indian or Indians within the limits of the State of Texas, on complaint thereof to the Agent, the party shall be arrested, tried, and if found guilty, punished according to law.

Article 8th

The said Indians, parties hereto, agree to deliver to the Officer Commanding Fort Martin Scott (Gillespie) or to the Indian Agent, all white persons or Negroes, who are now among the Indians of Texas, as prisoner-run-a-ways, by the 5th of February, 1851, at which time all prisoners belonging to said bands now in possession of the Government of the United States, shall be delivered up; and should any Indian or Indians of whatsover tribe or band inhabiting the State of Texas, refuse to surrender such persons, white or black, the Government of the United States shall have the privilege of sending force, as shall be necessary, to take them, and the Indians so refusing, into custody; and the parties hereto pledge themselves to give immediate notice of such refusal, the locality of said Indians, the band to which they belong, and render such further protection and assistance to the persons sent among them, as may be in their power.

Article 9th

The said Indians, parties hereto, agree to deliver, as soon as found, all run away Negroes, as may be seen by them, in the Indian country, to the officer commanding the nearest military post, or to the Indian Agent, and not knowingly to allow any Negro or Negroes to pass through the Indian country into Mexico, without arresting him or them, and should said Negroes be in such force as to render it difficult or dangerous to arrest them, then said Indians shall give immediate notice to the Officer Commanding the nearest Military Post, or to the Indian Agent, and act as guides and render such further assistance as may be required.

Article 10th

The practice of stealing horses has prevailed very much to the great disquiet of the citizens of the United States, and if persisted in cannot fail to involve the United States and the Indians in endless strife.

It is therefore agreed that it shall be put an entire stop to on both sides. Nevertheless should bad men in defiance of this agreement continue to make depredations of

that nature, the person so convicted thereof shall be punished with the utmost severity according to law, and all horses so stolen, either by the Indians from the United States or by the citizens of the United States from any of the said tribes or nations, into whose possession soever they may have passed, upon proof of rightful ownership shall be restored; and the Chiefs of said tribes or nations, shall give all necessary aid, protection to the citizens of the United States, in reclaiming or recovering such stolen horses; and the civil magistrates of the United States severally shall give all necessary aid and protection to Indians claiming and recovering such horses.

Article 11th

It is agreed that all stolen property now in the possession of the Indians, parties hereto, shall be given up at this time and all that they know of or can find before that time, shall be delivered at Fort Martin Scott on the 5th day of February, 1851, and if any Indian should refuse to bring or surrender such stolen property, immediate notice shall be given to the Officer Commanding the nearest Military Post.

Article 12th

It is agreed by the Indians, parties hereto, that they will not allow horses which they know or believe to have been stolen, to pass through their country, and that they will take such horses and the Indians having them in possession and custody, and bring them to nearest Military Post or Indian Agent.

Article 13th

It is agreed that the Indians, parties, hereto, will neither attack, steal from, murder, make captive, or otherwise injure or molest any white person, and they will use all their influence to prevent others from doing so; and immediately give notice of such, their locality and numbers, as refuse to comply with this article.

Article 14th

Should any young men belonging to bands or parties hereto, refuse to obey their Chiefs, and steal, murder or

otherwise violate this treaty, they shall be immediately arrested by their own bands, brought into Fort Martin Scott and surrendered for trial and punished according to law.

Article 15th

It is agreed by the Indians, parties hereto, that they will not go below the present Military Posts on the east side of the Colorado River, nor below the Llano River, and a line running west from its headquarters on the west side of the said Colorado River, without express permission from Indian Agent or some Officer commanding a Military Post in Texas; and that they will give immediate notice to the nearest Military Post should other Indians attempt to do so. The German settlement on the north side of the Llano River will be embraced in the foregoing article, so long as they do not trade with the Indians in anything except the produce of their farms, nor any horses or mules which may have been stolen.

Article 16th

The Indians hereto, agree to deliver by the 5th day of February, 1851, to the Officer commanding Fort Martin Scott, the Indian who murdered the Germans at Craig's Trading House on the Llano during the present fall, or should they be unable to deliver them, then to point out said murderers and render such other assistance in arresting them as may be necessary.

Article 17th

The Indians, parties hereto, agree to deliver at the same time and place the Indians who captured and carried away white girls near the town of Lamar on Copano Bay. in September or October last, or should they be unable to do so, to point out such Indians to such force as may be sent after them and render such other assistance as may be necessary to their arrest and punishment.

Article 18th

For the protection of said Indians and for the purpose of securing a permanent peace and carrying out the stipulations of this treaty, the Government of the United States

shall within the year A. D., 1851, establish in Indian country one or more trading houses and agencies, and make such suitable presents as may be deemed proper, and treat with said Indians as to a definite line between them and the whites so the Indian country may be known and respected.

Article 19th

If any person or persons shall introduce ardent spirits or intoxicating liquors of any kind among said tribes or nations, such person or persons shall be punished according to the laws of the United States. And the said tribes or nations to give immediate notice to the Agent of the United States residing near them, and to prevent by any means in their power the violation of this article or treaty, and the said Chiefs or any one of them may destroy any ardent spirits found in the Indian country.

Article 20th

It is further agreed that the blacksmith shall be sent to reside among the said tribes or nations, to keep their guns and farming utensils in order, so long and in such manner as the President shall see proper. It is further agreed that the school teachers, at the discretion of the President, may be sent among the said tribes or nations for the purpose of instructing them; and the said tribes or nations agree that preachers of the Gospel may travel or reside among them by permission of the President, or his Agents, to be appointed, and ample protection shall be afforded them in the discharge of their duties.

Given under our hands and seals — the said John H. Rollins, acting for the United States, and the Indians for themselves and those acknowledging their authority — the 10th day of December, Ano Domini, 1850.

Signed: John H. Rollins, Special Agent for the United States of Indians of Texas.

Comanches,

Pa-Che-Na-Qua-Heip (Buffalo Hump) (his X mark)

Sa-Be-Heit (Small Wolf) (his X mark)

Ca-Tusie

(his X mark)

To-Souk (White) (his X mark)

Car-I-Wah (Never Stop) (his X mark)

Seech-Che-Ni-Ka (Feather) (his X mark)

Guada Lupe (his X mark)

Weit-Che-Ki (Humming Bird) (his X mark)

Ka-Bo-Ha-Mo (Never Smokes) (his X mark)

Que-Na-No (his X mark)

Pe-Ah-Tie-Quosh (Rifle Breech) (his X mark)

Mo-He-Ka (Pole Cat) (his X mark)

Caddoes,

Caddo John (his X mark)

Sa-Te-Wah-Ah-Nache (his X mark)

Tah-Tie (his X mark)



Since this Indian has no identifying name other than THE CHIEF, he may be a Kiowa Chief.

Teh-Chi-Tah

(his X mark)

Tcheh-he-wok

(his X mark)

Sam-bead-eye

(his X mark)

Lipans,

Chi-ki-to

(his X mark)

Chi-po-ti

(his X mark)

Ye-keh-tas-na

(his X mark)

Keh-rauch

(his X mark)

Quapas,

Tish-eh-ka-wa-ta

(his X mark)

See-ka-ta-hoah

(his X mark)

Ho-ka

(his X mark)

Ki-teh-weh

(his X mark)

Peh-teh-heh

(his X mark)

Tehuacanas,

Nes-ho-chi-tash (Traveler)

(his X mark)

Ka-ra-ki-ris (Deceiver)

(his X mark)

Heh-chi-tah (Seizer) (his X mark)

Oli-chi-tauk

(his X mark)

Wacoes,

A-qua-quosh (Short Tail) (his X mark)

Hed-e-cok-isk (Double Barreled) (his X mark)

Chos-toch-kah-a-wah (Hollow) (his X mark)

Tah-to-way-choiss (Sergeant)
(his X mark)

Witnesses: H. W. Merrill, Capt. 2nd Drag's Bvt. Maj.
U.S.A. (Commanding Co. B 2nd Reg. U. S.
Dragoons and Commanding Expedition).
J. B. McCown, Capt. Commanding Company, Tex.

Interpreters: Jon Cormer, Jesse Chisholm, Delaware Indians and Guides.

This Treaty is said to be one of the most important treaties ever made between white man and Red Indian. The original is in Washington, U.S.A., but a true copy may be found among Indian papers at State Library at Austin, Tex.

It will be noted that in "Articles of Treaty:" Made and concluded on Spring Creek, near the River San Saba, etc.; whereas the Treaty Ground is located on Survey No. 104 in the name of Ludwig Borches, and lies in the fork made by Latham Creek emptying into Wallace Creek (Wallace Creek is the present name for Spring Creek).

The Thomas Wilson family have been placed first in this small volume of biographical sketches, not because it was the first family to settle on Wallace Creek, because there were several families to come to Wallace Creek years before the Wilsons came. The name has been placed first

because they owned the survey upon which the very important Peace Treaty made by Special Agent John H. Rollins made with the Indians of Texas for the United States Government, in December, 1850, and that was before any white man lived on Wallace Creek, or even in San Saba County.

WILEY WILLIAMS: The man whose name appears at the head of this sketch was born September 3rd, 1838, and deceased September 24th, 1901. The wife, Rose Gammon Taylor-Williams, was born May 11th, 1846. Wily Williams and Rose Gammon Taylor were united in marriage June 5th, 1865. She deceased Nov. 1st, 1898, both rest in the San Saba Cemetery.

In those days big families was the rule; their children were twelve in number, namely: Elizabeth (always called Betty) Williams, born April 5th, 1866, on Wallace Creek, San Saba County, Texas, She married Tom Ratliff, a ranchman of Brown County, Texas. Alice Williams was born on Wallace Creek, San Saba County, September 5th, 1867, and married Ben Teague, a carpenter of San Saba, Texas. The third child, David Wiley, died very young. Next was Oscar, who was born at San Saba in 1871, and at the age of sixty vears married a widow at Sioux City, Iowa. Cornelius Williams was the next child, and he married Rose Wilson, and they moved to Ogden, Utah, where during the World War No. 1 he acted as Agent to buy and train horses for the U. S. Government, and while training one of them it fell and killed Cornelius. Hiram was the sixth child in the Wiley Williams family, and died before reaching manhood, Fred Williams, blind from birth, was next, never married and died at about forty years. Jake Williams came next, and was handicapped as to intellect, and died in 1937. Tom Williams was the ninth Williams child, and he married Edna Maxwell of San Saba County. In 1945 he was serving as policeman in Muskogee, Oklahoma. Elma Williams was the tenth child, and married Dr. Hutcheon—both are now dead. Ernest Williams is eleventh child, and married Millie Higden, and they live at Clarkston, Ga. Frankie Williams was the youngest of twelve Williams children, and she married Frank Thomson, a ranchman of Tom Green County, Texas,

It was when Alice Williams, the second child, was a baby, that Wiley Williams had "Old Dun," his favorite saddle horse, stolen by the Indians. It came about this way: The Williams family was down on Wallace Creek a short ways from their home, but not in sight of it, gathering pecans, that their milk cows set up bawling, and seemed to be much excited, suggesting that something was wrong. Mr. Williams suggested to the wife that the Indians were about. Old Dun was gone and the numerous moccasin tracks all about were good proof of it. Mrs. Williams waited some time for her husband to return, but as he did not do so, she took her small children to the house, upon arriving there not finding her husband, and seeing the yard was covered with moccasin tracks, concluded that the Indians were really about. They all hastened into the house, a log one, and securely barred the strong door. She dared not sleep, so remained awake all night, and alert for the return of the marauders. It afterwards developed that when Mr. Williams got to the house and found the ground all about covered with moccasin tracks and his favorite saddle horse, Old Dun, gone, he went down Wallace Creek for help. Mathias Harkey and sons, Riley, Billie and Israel Harkey, were settlers not far down Wallace Creek from the Williams place. The Harkey men eagerly agreed to go with Williams, and undertake to recover his stolen horse. The thieves had made no effort to cover up their trail and it was easily followed. The Indian raiders were come upon within a few hours, and during the encounter, for better protection, the whites took to a thicket. Mr. Williams had already spotted Old Dun, and the Chief was riding him and rode round and round the thicket occupied by the white men. Mr. Williams was an expert marksman, and at every good opportunity took a shot at the bold Chieftain; good marksmanship proved its worth, the over-confident chief received a bullet from Williams' cap and ball gun that laid him low. After the death of their chief, the Indians lost heart and courage and gave up the fight.

Mrs. Ratliff (now dead) of Brownwood, oldest child in the Wiley Williams family, who supplied the data for the Wiley Williams family sketch, does not recall whether or

not if her father recovered "Old Dun."

Early one morning Wiley Williams heard turkeys gobbling near his home. He reached for his Citizen's rifle and stepped out doors, saw feathers and quite a commotion in a nearby algerita bush, taking hasty but good aim he cut down. Being suspicious of Indian tracks he refrained from making an investigation at once. A little later neighbor, John Dalton and son, John Westly, came along going to mill, and Williams called to them and told them of the incident. Upon investigation it was found that Wiley had shot an Indian instead of a turkey. The Indian had cunningly placed turkey feathers in his hair, and could imitate the gobble of a turkey to perfection. The Indian had no gun but a bow, quiver full of arrows and a shield made of buffalo hide. These trophies Mr. Williams kept for a while then sent the shield to the Governor at Austin, Texas.

In 1866 or 1867 Billie Harkey had his saddle horse stolen from the stable. It was a bright moonshiny night, ideal for prowling Comanches to steal horses from their white settler enemies. A small party of Wallace Creek settlers met at the home of Billie Harkey for the purpose of pursuing the thieves and recovering the Harkey horse and likely other horses, and perhaps mete out punishment to the red rascals. Some of the men in the pursuit party were "Uncle Jimmie" Henderson, Dave Vance, 16-year-old Jim Henderson, Jr., Wiley Williams, Billie Harkey and his brothers, Riley and Israel Harkey. The trail was plain and led in an almost due south direction. There being no fences to stop or turn them aside, the chase was rapid. A thin curl of smoke was observed, no doubt it was the thieves, a halt was made and a plan of attack laid. After reconnoitering it was found that the Indians were encamped on a small brushy topped hill, which now bears the name INDIAN HILL, is located on the head draws of Cedar Hollow, in one of the subdivisions of the Bob Ellis ranch.

A quick and determined attack was made on the surprised Indians, and a running fight was had. The elder Henderson was the only white man wounded and he rather seriously. One of the white men, seeing an Indian making ready to shoot Mr. Henderson, called out, "Look out, Henderson." Seeing the swift coming arrow just in time to

swerve his body a little bit, the arrow struck his powderhorn, thus breaking its force considerably; nevertheless, the arrow pierced Henderson's breast over the barb. Dave Vance acted as surgeon and extracted the arrow. Nothing daunted, Mr. Henderson reloaded his rifle and was in the act of aiming it at a live target, when another arrow struck his right arm, but he got the Indian.

In 1871 the Williams family moved to San Saba town. Williams dug a rather large deep hole in his yard, near the kitchen, tied a horse to a nearby tree, then after dark, he and two other men, with their loaded guns, concealed themselves in the hole, waiting for the Indians to come for the horse. The moon was bright and not a cloud in sight. Hours after dark an Indian on all fours and grunting like a hog. approached; he would crawl around then stand erect, walking about: at last meeting no interference he slowly drew near the tethered horse, and of course nearer the white men in ambush. One of the white men snapped his old cap and ball at the would-be horse thief; alas the percussion cap failed to explode the powder, however, Williams, fully alert, fired his pistol. When daylight came a posse was got together, and the Indian trail, marked with much blood. was followed north to the San Saba River. At the river's edge much blood appeared, but before arriving here a gold watch was found. No doubt the watch was thrown away by the Indian. Crossing the river the white men again picked up the trail and followed it to China Creek, where a new made grave was found, digging it out, an Indian body, surrounded by his bow and arrows, was found. We have not the exact date when Wiley Williams came to Wallace Creek. J. W. Dalton says his father came there in 1863, and that the Williams family was there then.

Mrs. Williams died Nov. 1st, 1898, and her husband survived her till September 24th, 1901. He was a member of the Catholic Church, also had membership in Mason and Odd Fellows Lodges. Mrs. Williams was a Baptist.

While living in San Saba Wiley Williams engaged in the saloon business. The following amusing occurrence took place there: Parson Maclemore, an ex-slave, cleaned and swept up more than one place of business in San Saba, among them Wiley Williams' saloon. The day previous Mr.

Williams had received a shipment of liquors in barrels, amongst them some grain alcohol 180 proof. As everyone knows, alcohol and corn whiskey are similar in color. Corn whiskey was the Parson's favorite drink. Mr. Williams was engaged in drawing from the barrel and bottling alcohol, and the Parson, sweeping and dusting, was wide awake to Mr. Williams' actions. Said the Parson, "Mr. Williams, is that some of your good corn likker?" Wiley nodded his head, then, "Mr. Williams, please give me some of it." A generous glass of it was poured out and handed the Parson; nothing loath the Parson hastily drank the firy liquid. Of course it took his breath, hiccoughing, stammering and shivering, the Parson finally said, "P-l-e-a-s-e Mr. Williams, g-i-v-e me some water."

While living in San Saba Town Wiley Williams secured some very valuable valley land on the north side of the San Saba River, but in his later years, health failing, he mortgaged this land to secure a money loan and unfortunately lost it.

HENRY (generally known as GENERAL) TAYLOR: The subject of this sketch, was born in North Carolina March, 1805. He came to Wallace Creek, San Saba County, Texas, in 1854 from Mississippi. In 1890, with his son, John Alen Taylor, with whom he lived, moved to Throckmorton County, Texas, and there, March 3rd, 1893, he died, and was buried in the public cemetery there.

He assisted in the organization of San Saba County May 3rd, 1856, and was the first Coroner of the county. The following data are copied from Coroner Records, as kept by him:

The State of Texas) County of San Saba)

On the verbal information of several citizens of said county an inquest was held on the body of J. J. Grumbles on the 25th day of February, A. D., 1858, at which the following proceedings were had, Viz.:

A jury consisting of John H. Brown, F. M. Ellis, William B. Wear, David Matslear, W. T. Murray and G. B. Cook, good and lawful men of San Saba County, were sworn and empaneled.

After hearing the testimony and examining the body of the deceased, the jury rendered the following verdict, to wit:

"That the said J. J. Grumbles came to his death by pistol ball or balls propelled from a sixshooter held in the hand of Sennett Munnsett in the town of San Saba on the 25th day of February, A. D., 1858, between the hours 3 and 4 o'clock P. M. In testimony whereof as well, of the said Coroner as the said jurors have hereunto set their hands, this of the year, just above written."

Signed: John H. Brown, David Matslear, F. M. Ellis,

W. T. Murray, Wm. B. Wear, G. B. Cook.

H. Taylor, Coroner, S. C.

The said Sennett Munnsett not being in custody, a warrant was issued to Constable of Precinct No. 3 or other lawful officer in said county, returnable to John McNeil, J. P. Precinct No. 3, for the apprehension of the said Mussett.

The State of Texas) County of San Saba)

On the verbal information of Mr. John Harmon an inquest was held upon the body of a Mexican, whose name is unknown. The deceased was a spare built, active, keen looking man, weighing about 140 pounds, wearing a blue mix print pants, a red calico shirt and white wool hat. On the 3rd day of April, 1859, the following proceedings were had, to wit:—

A jury consisting of M. Hubbert, E. W. Holler, S. Linn, J. R. Bowman, A. Hamilton, R. C. Traweek, good lawful men, were sworn in according to law. Being unable to procure any decision who had committed the murder of the deceased. John Harmon, who had previously appeared and voluntarily surrendered himself into my custody, appeared and voluntarily made a statement before the jury which was taken down before me and signed by the said Harmon, and after which and viewing the body of the deceased, the jury returned the following verdict, to wit:

We, the jury, find that the deceased came to his death on the 2nd day of April, 1859, about three or four miles west of the town of San Saba, by shots from a pistol in the

hands of John Harmon, as per the statement of the said Harmon. This made before us, April 3rd, 1859.

M. Hubbert, E. W. Holler,

S. Linn, J. R. Bowman, Henry Taylor, A. Hamilton, R. C. Traweek. Coroner, S. C.

John Harmon being in custody, he was required to give cost in the sum of two hundred and fifty dollars, to appear at the next term of the District Court of said county to answer for the charge for the murder of the deceased. He accordingly gave his bond with S. Linn, W. T. Murray as securities, and was released from custody.

The State of Texas) County of San Saba)

On the verbal information of several citizens of said county an inquest was held upon the body of J. W. Prigmore, deceased at or near the mouth of San Saba River in the said county on the 10th day of May, A. D., 1859, at which said inquest the following proceedings were had, to wit:

A jury, consisting of John McNeil, R. D. Bedwell, D. Hubbert, J. W. Young, W. R. Hamilton, B. J. W. French, all good and lawful jurors of said county, were sworn in due form of law, who, after hearing the testimony, and examined the body of the deceased, returned the following verdict, to wit:

We, the jury, find that the deceased, J. W. Prigmore, came to his death by the accidental discharge of a gun held in his own hands on the 9th day of May, 1859.

Signed,

Henry Taylor, Coroner, S. C.

John McNeil, R. D. Bedwell.

D. Hubbert,

J. W. Young,

W. R. Hamilton,

B. J. W. French.

The State of Texas)

County of San Saba)

On the verbal information of G. W. Pool and other citizens of San Saba County an inquest was this day held upon the body of Theodore F. Sayre, deceased, from Tucson, Ari-

zonia. The deceased is 4 feet 8 inches, light or sandy complexion, age about 45 years, spare build, thin visage, weighs about 140 lbs., had on when found, a pair of new denim pants, a black cloth coat, half worn, old black satin vest, white soft hat.

A jury, consisting of six men, to wit: John H. Brown, John Wood, J. L. Murray, E. C. Cullen, J. H. Williams, A. J. Hubbert, were duly empaneled and sworn according to law. Who, after hearing the testimony advanced and examining the corpse of the deceased, return the following verdict:

The deceased came to his death by being gagged and choked to death by a piece of rope in D. D. Low's saddle shop on the night of the 12th of May, 1867, from evidence we have reason to believe that deceased was murdered and robbed by parties who came with the deceased from Arizonia.

John W. Brown,

Henry Taylor, Coroner, S. C.

J. L. Murray,

John Wood,

A. J. Hubbert,

E. C. Cullen,

J. H. Williams.

After the verdict of the jury in the case of Theodore F. Sayre was made up and signed the sum of three hundred and one dollar was found on his person, which is now in my possession, less funeral expenses, for which I have.

San Saba, Texas) May 13th, 1867)

The State of Texas)

County of San Saba)

Upon the verbal information of George Bayles and others, citizens of San Saba County, an inquest was this day held over the dead bodies of — — Wright and — — Wright and — — Wright, who were found by a certain citizen of San Saba County, hanging by the neck, near the mouth of Horse Creek in said county, on or about the 7th day of Jan., 1874.

A Jury of Inquest being summoned composed of the following citizens, to wit: E. Estep, S. Estep, I. Williams,

Bos McAnelly, Nick Sutton and John Hollinger, and being duly empaneled and sworn, after hearing the evidence addressed in the matter, returned the following verdict. To wit:

We, the jury, find that, from the evidence this day addressed before us, the deceased parties came to their deaths by being hung by their necks to a limb of a post oak tree, near the mouth of Horse Creek, in county and state aforesaid, on or about the 8th of Jan., A. D., 1874, by the hands of parties to the Jury unknown.

Henry Taylor.

Coroner, S. C.

Signed,
Bos McAnelly,
Nick Sutton,
E. Estep,
John Hollinger,
S. Estep,
J. Williams.

San Saba County, Texas) Jan. 9th, 1874)

State of Texas) County of San Saba)

In the matter of inquisition over the dead body of James T. Stephens, the following proceedings were had: J. A. Hall, J. B. Fleming, Wm. Harkey, J. C. Darnell, A. R. Wood, C. T. Harmon were summoned and sworn in as Jury of Inquest, and after examining the body of the deceased, and knowing the evidence adduced, rendered the following verdict:

J. T. Stephens came to his death on the Richland Road, east of Mr. Hall's by pistol shot on the 13th of March, 1874.

The following testimony was adduced in the examination:

Thomas Stephens' horse gave out, Mr. A. Sailor was driving the horse with a whip, and Mr. Stephens did get my shotgun and attempted to get out of the wagon, and I prevailed upon him not to do so, and he remained for some 200 yards, all of a sudden he jumped from my wagon and

commenced firing on Mr. William Sailor, and Mr. A. Sailor. Signed, A. G. Collins.

Sworn and subscribed before me this the 14th day of March, 1874.

Henry Taylor, Coroner, S. S. County.

Mr. Stephens advanced on Mr. Sailor with a drawn pistol, and Mr. Sailor told him to put up the pistol two or three times. He furthermore stated to us, but of my knowlege and belief that Mr. Stephens fired the first shot.

Signed, D. A. McNair.

Sworn and subscribed before me, this the 14th day of March, A. D., 1874. Henry (his mark X) Taylor.

I certify that the above contains all the proceedings in the matter. Henry Taylor, Coroner.

The above record of the inquest held over the body of J. T. Stephens seems to be mixed or confused, but I have endeavored to copy the Record exactly.

The State of Texas) County of San Saba)

July 18th, 1874—We, the jury, find this man murdered at the Henderson Ponds, shot in the bowels, we further believe him to be a Mexican.

Signed,

Henry Taylor,

Coroner, S. C.

G. Choat,

I. Choat,

S. A. Vaughn,

J. M. Tippen,

J. R. Bomar.

John C. Harris,

Sept. 15th, 1874.

On the north ear of what is known as Wolf Ridge on the 15th day of Sept., the inquest held over the dead body of Lev. Dunbar by H. Taylor, Coroner of San Saba County. The verdict of the jury that he came to his death by a

six shooter shot by the hands of John Perkins.

Signed,

Henry Taylor,

R. G. Binion.

Coroner, S. C.

J. D. Yarbrough.

S. Higgins,

G. Allen,

I. W. Henyes,

G. Choat.

This ends the Coroner's Records, as kept by Henry Taylor of Wallace Creek, San Saba County, Texas. We are indebted to Mr. J. A. Taylor of Quitake, Texas, for the privilege of examining these records first hand. Mr. Taylor is grandson of Henry Taylor, the Coroner.

Henry Taylor followed livestock farming as a livelihood, was a Methodist in faith, was a member of the Masonic fraternity, and a Democrat as to politics.

The wife, Elizabeth Trease-Taylor, was born in North Carolina February 14th, 1805, and departed this life 26th, 1890, at home on Wallace Creek, and the body was laid to rest in Wallace Creek Cemetery. She was a life-long, consistent member of the Methodist Church.

Our record shows that one child was born to Henry and Elizabeth Trease-Taylor, namely: John Allen Taylor, whose biography follows.

JOHN ALLEN TAYLOR: In the Tar Heel State on the 25th of January, 1829, was born John Allen Taylor. He with his father, Henry Taylor, came to Texas in 1851, and soon afterwards to Simpson Creek, San Saba County, and in 1854 they moved to Wallace Creek, same county, and there settled on a tract of that good black land, bounded on the east by the bold running Wallace Creek. His occupation was livestock farming, a Methodist in religious faith, was a member of the Masonic fraternity, and a lifelong Democrat. During the Civil War he served under Capt. N. D. McMillen as a Texas Ranger and classified as Indian Scout.

February 26th, 1868, John Allen Taylor and Artie

Missie Hamilton were united in marriage. To this union were born seven children: Elizabeth Henrietta Taylor, born Oct. 20th, 1872, she married J. E. Wooten Aug. 7th, 1895, in Throckmorton County, Texas. She lives in California and is the mother of six living children. John Allen Taylor, Jr., born March 8th, 1874, on Wallace Creek, San Saba County, Texas, and married Eunice Tucker on June 7th at Haskell, Texas, William Donnell Taylor, born October 21st, 1875, deceased December 13th, 1944, married Henrietta Chaffin at Haskell, Texas, June 24th, 1898, has three children living, he was a Presbyterian by faith and a carpenter by trade. Mary Ann Kathryn Taylor, born December 30th, 1877, and deceased January 25th, 1878, buried at Wallace Creek Cemetery, San Saba County, Texas, James Walter Taylor, born September 12th, 1879, married Fave Templeton Oliver, and to them were born five children, a ranchman by occupation and a Methodist by faith, deceased October 14th, 1940, buried in Merrell Cemetery, Floyd County, Texas, Quitague Creek, Marvin Alexander Taylor was born December 23rd, 1881, married Tina Mixon and to them were born three children, is a laborer by occupation and Baptist by faith, and in 1946 was living in Lockney, Texas. George Washington Taylor, born December 29th, 1883. married Neva Harfield, and to them were born six children. all living in 1946, a laborer by occupation and Methodist by faith, and living in New Mexico in 1946.

John Allen Taylor left Wallace Creek in 1890, and moved to Throckmorton County, Texas, to a place that he had swapped his Wallace Creek property to Martin Dixon for. In 1900 he moved to King County, Texas, and in 1911 he made another move, this time to Floyd County, Texas, where, Mar. 5th, 1918, he died and was buried in Lockney Cemetery.

During the last five years of his life, Allen Taylor was an invalid, but having, naturally, a cheerful disposition, and a firm trust in his heavenly Father, made him patient and kind.

As published in the county paper shortly after his death, the following obituary, by his pastor, Rev. Clyde Haddick, is herewith given.

"Pioneer citizen passes away. After five years of affliction, Mr. J. A. Taylor passed out of this world last Friday A. M. at 4 o'clock.

"Grandpa Taylor has experienced many happy years in his life, his hope in God and his faith in Him, made him patient. tender and kind to everyone, and everyone that knew him and his suffering, that great was his patience. Amid the pains his hope was anchored in God. During his suffering he trusted more in the sweet promises of God. Like the tender flesh of a child born into this world, angels have bourne away the spirit where the young stay young and the old grow young.

"Grandpa Taylor was born in North Carolina Jan. 25th, 1829. He was converted at the age of 16, and when he was twenty he united with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and has been a member ever since. He is a pioneer soldier of the cross. The church has lost a good member, the wife a good husband, the children a loving father. He was the father of seven children — all living but one — and all present at the funeral services. We were sad to see him put beneath the sod, but glad that his spirit has soared its way to God.

"May the comforting spirit of God be with the family in their hours of sadness, and in those hours of bereavement. By his pastor and friend, Clyde H. Haddick."

THOMAS JOHN ROBBINS. He was a native of Illinois; the Robbins family came to Texas in 1853 or 1854, and almost immediately settled on Robbins Branch, a small tributary of Wallace Creek from the west.

Tom Robbins was an expert blacksmith, and made many iron and steel tools and plows for the pioneer settlers of San Saba County, as well as horse shoes and horse shoe nails. Mathew Kuykendall of Cherokee Creek relates that he used to ride horseback from home to the Robbins blacksmith shop whenever he needed horseshoes, a tool mended or in fact, most anything that he needed made of iron or steel.

Wife: Lelia — Robbins was born in Ohio in the year 1830, her parents being native to Virginia. The date

of the marriage of Tom and Lelia Robbins has been lost, but approximately it was in 1850.

To this union were born six children, namely, Thomas Robbins, Jr., who at an early age volunteered for service in the Confederate Army, met his death in battle, and was buried where he fell. John P. Robbins was the second child and was born on Wallace Creek, 1853 or 1854, and claimed to be the first white child born in San Saba County, deceased April 30th, 1929, at his home with niece, Mrs. Clyde Hayes, near Algerita, Texas, and buried in Wallace Creek Cemetery. Further on in this volume is a more extended biography of John P. Robbins, Ellen Robbins was third child and born on Wallace Creek 1855, deceased, Malinda Robbins was born in 1857 on Wallace Creek, deceased. Abe! Davis Robbins was born Jan. 1st, 1861, on Wallace Creek, married Nanie Elizabeth Shoults, and deceased Jan. 21st, 1894. Ann Robbins, the youngest child, was born on Wallace Creek in 1866, deceased, Elizabeth (Ellen) Robbins married Lonzo Armentrout: she and Abel Robbins were the only children to marry.

During an Indian raid the three Robbins girls, Ellen, Malinda and Ann, were herding the family sheep. The Indians made an attempt to capture the girls, but two of them escaped and finally reached home, but the other one was not so fortunate, however she eluded the red rascals by hiding in the brush and weeds for three days, when the Minute Men, who were hunting for her and scouting for the Indians, found her on the San Saba River near what is the Ed Rainey place. Exposure and lack of food, to say nothing of her fright, left the poor girl in bad condition, but she survived.

Later Tom Robbins preempted a tract of land on Flat Branch. This land was near the mouth of Wallace Creek and about three miles from San Saba City. The Robbins family made their home on this tract of land, and here Tom Robbins lived out his earthly life.

JOHN P. ROBBINS: The subject of this sketch was born on Wallace Creek, San Saba County, Texas, in 1853 or 1854, and claimed to have been the first white child to have been

born in San Saba County. He was son of Thomas and Lelia Robbins, and deceased April 30th, 1929, at the home of his niece, Mrs. Clyde Hayes, near Algerita, San Saba County; the body rests in Wallace Creek Cemetery.

We are indebted to the San Saba Star for the following story of John P. Robbins and his "up the trail" experiences: "FIFTY YEARS IN THE SADDLE" gives John P. Robbins the title of "Oldest Cowboy in San Saba County."

On the first trip, 1874, "up the trail," Mr. Robbins was twenty years old, and had been a cowboy a good many years. Following the Chisholm Trail along the route of Ft. Griffin and Doane's Store, across the Brazos and Red Rivers into Indian Territory (now Oklahoma) and into Kansas lengthens that old cattle trail from starting point, San Saba County and vicinity, to its ending, over 600 miles. From 16 to 18 men drove more than 2,000 head of cattle to Dodge City, Kansas, where the yearlings were cut out and taken to Colorado City, Colorado, the beef were taken down to Caldwell, Kansas, and Caddo Springs, Arkansas, where they were distributed to the Indians at the rate of fifty head per week, being paid for by the Government, who was feeding the Indians in the reservations.

In the round up before the trip up the trail, cattle were gathered from San Saba, Mason, Llano and McCulloch Counties by the Smith and Elliott Co. under foreman Carl Lehmberg, whom the cowboys knew as "Boss."

TRIP UP THE TRAIL

Three to four months were spent in taking the cattle up the trail; food and bedding being carried in the grub wagon, drawn by two yoke of oxen. From daybreak to about an hour by sun the herd moved about ten miles, camp was pitched about sundown, and the cattle were left to bed for the night. A regular camp cook drove the grub wagon and cooked for the gang. After supper the Indians would often come into camp and get something to eat; very hostile Indians were found along the trail.

The daily rations of the cowboys consisted of bacon, brown beans, coffee and flour bread, all of which was supplied before beginning the trip. Wild game was plentiful along the way, and prairie chicken, antelope, deer and buf-

falo were killed for fresh meat. On Pease River, Oklahoma, there was a delicious plum, Mr. Robbins says, as good as the improved varieties.

In the spring of 1874 John Robbins was on the trail, and the Tonkawa Indians were being moved from Fort Griffin in Texas to Oklahoma. Three or four hundred Indians would be in a group passing the trail herds. The Indians traveled on foot and horseback. The U. S. Government was feeding the Indians but sometimes their provisions ran low, and game was scarce, then the cowboys would share food with them. Any animal that became crippled or was unable to keep up with the herd was given the Indians, who with no fastidious notions, made the animal into butcher's meat. A favorite food with the Indians was the "dry land" tortoise, which they would put in a bed of live coals alive and roast. This was one of their delicacies.

Early spring was the usual time that trail drives were started, and by the time the cattle were disposed of it might be the winter following before the men returned home.

There were dangers and losses confronted in these trips when the rivers imbedded in quicksand were crossed or the cattle thieves raided at night, or sometimes a night stampede, which injured the cattle. The Red River and the Canadian River were from one-half mile wide at the crossings, and quicksands would often catch the slow moving cows. Sometimes one would drown, but generally the cowboys would pull them out of the sink holes.

At night, two men were kept stationed to keep watch over the cattle from the Indians and cattle thieves. Mr. Robbins recalls one night when the cattle thieves raided the herd, and stole some four hundred of the cattle. When a stampede was started at night the entire gang of cowboys would be called out on duty to ride and see after the stampeded herd. Most every stampede resulted in some crippled cows, which were given to the Indians to eat. When the outfit would reach Dodge City, the cowboys would buy themselves new clothing, and stay in that section until the herd of cattle had been disposed of, and then hit the trail for home. Mr. Robbins was at this writing, 1951, the only survivor of the trail drivers of this trip, and

now, 1951, he has gone over the Great Divide.

Two years later, John Robbins took his last trip up the trail; conditions along the trail had changed a lot within the two years. Game was a great deal scarcer, and the Indians had been gathered into the Indian Territory (Oklahoma). More than 3,000 cattle were driven this trip. The increase of the numbers of cattle in this section of Texas had been phenomenal.

During the gathering and rounding up of cattle for a trail herd, cowbovs rode 200 or more miles, going into Gillespie. Haves and other counties to the south. Many of these cattle would be three and four years old before they felt a rope or carried a brand. Cattle were so numerous, and strayed such great distances from home that the smaller vearly roundups missed a considerable number of them. and too, there were just too many cattle to be thrown together in one roundup. Fences had to be built around the gardens to save them from the rapidly increasing cattle. Mr. Robbins said that before the Government placed the Indians on their reservation in Oklahoma, they often killed cows and stole horses, said that when an Indian was pressed for food he would as soon have horse meat as beef. Jeff Estep and Andy Hill went up the trail with this herd, said Robbins.

This herd was owned by Smith-Elliott & Co., who bought it under the management of Boss Harg Bagley, who also drove them up the trail. After this trail herd made the trip, trail driving, says Mr. Robbins, rapidly diminished on account of nearby markets being developed. This was John Robbins' last trip up the trail, and he settled down to a quiet life at his home on Wallace Creek. Mr. Robbins tells us that his father, Thomas J. Robbins, built the first fence around a field in San Saba County. The fence was of elm rails around a field in the forks of Wallace Creek and the San Saba River.

During Mr. Robbins' youth the nearest trading post was Austin, where there were only two or three stores. E. M. Scarborough owned one of them, and in 1926 his name was still there. About 1862 Round Rock was established, and San Saba people did trading there. But little mail was

received in those days, and when it was received, annual trips to the trading post picked it up.

Supplies were purchased in large quantities to last the entire year. Mr. Robbins' father was a blacksmith by trade, and would make many horseshoes and horseshoe nails out of wrought iron and trade them for household necessities. The medium of exchange was very simple. Using deer hides, buffalo hides and goose quills to trade for food and clothing. Goose quills were most in demand, recalled Mr. Robbins, as this was the material from which writing pens were made.

People continued to make once a year trips for supplies to the trading posts till Tom Ward established the first store in San Saba in 1866. (One report has it that Wiley Murray opened the first store in San Saba, that he started out as a merchant by peddling his goods horseback, but later sold them from his store).

Farming was beginning to be developed in San Saba County, and most cultivated land was fenced. The county brand was 29 on the neck and the owner's brand on the hip of the animal. (Note: The owner placed his brand wherever he chose). State Rangers were placed at strategic places over the counties, and peace was kept and cattle stealing was lessened.

Mr. Robbins says that only one legal execution has ever been performed in this county, and that was the hanging of a Negro, who was charged with the murder of his master. The execution was the result of a trial by jury, and the hanging was done by a State Ranger.

At first slaves worked with the cattle before farming was developed. Dr. Hudson, the community doctor, kept two or three slaves around his place until the Civil War.

In relating his school days, Mr. Robbins said that he went to school on the hill south of the Court House, and was taught by Joe Frazier Brown. The Comanche Indians tried to capture Mr. Robbins and his smaller brother when they were on their way to school. Mr. Robbins was twelve years old at the time and his little brother was seven. Being good horsemen and seeing the Indians first, was what saved them, though they had a narrow escape.

Mr. Robbins heads the Cowboy Parade every year at the opening of the San Saba Fair. He is the oldest cowboy in the county. When cowboys ride in the parade they ride their favorite pony. Mr. Robbins says that from the age of twenty years up to fifty years he spent most of his nights in the saddle, but seldom rides horseback now.

ABEL DAVIS ROBBINS: A real old timer of Wallace Creek, having been born there March 21st, 1861, contracted pneumonia in 1894, and died January, 1894, is buried in Wallace Creek Cemetery.

Abel Robbins, son of Thomas and Lelia Robbins, was a farmer-stockman by occupation. Trained young horses for service, and helped neighbors with their cattle.

Abel Davis Robbins and Nanie Elizabeth Schoultz were united in marriage December 21st, 1890. They had born to them two children, both daughters. The oldest, Muriel, lived to be twenty years old and typhoid fever took her away. Vallie, the second daughter, married Clyde Hayes, and they live on their own home one mile east of Algerita, San Saba County, Texas.

A few years after her husband's death, Nanie Elizabeth Robbins married Miles Smithhart, who had lost his wife some time before, leaving him to care for four small sons.

At this place we will record an unusual and thrilling experience of Abel Robbins. He had been to town (San Saba), and returning home after dark a Mexican lion ambushed in the top of a tree on the roadside, sprang at Robbins, but the horse was a little too quick for the lion and leaped fast and far, though the lion left his powerful claw marks on the horse's hips.

Abel Robbins was a devout member of the Methodist Church, and at his death was Superintendent of Sunday School at Wallace Creek. At that time Wallace Creek was noted for her camp meetings, and these meetings were not only attended by Wallace Creek people but others from far and near came and camped on the beautiful shaded grounds nearby, and used their time and talent in making the meeting a success. As a rule, all the different church denominations in a community would unite and work together in

these meetings. The Robbins, all of them, were of the Methodist faith.

THOMAS BENJAMIN THAXTON was born near Independence, Missouri, Jan. 4th, 1845, came to Texas in 1849, and to Wallace Creek in 1856.

He served in the Confederate Army in Hood's 7th Cavalry Company, D. Green's Brigade, during the Civil War between the States. He participated in a number of small battles and engagements, but the most important one was the recapture of Galveston, Texas, by General McGruder, December 31st, 1862, and he was wounded in this battle.

He met the Indians in many skirmishes through Texas and New Mexico.

He and Bettie Wadsworth of Virginia were united in marriage at San Saba in 1878, and to this union was born one child, a daughter, Escalina Thaxton, in 1879, and she died at an early age in 1897. Mrs. Thaxton did not long survive the birth of her daughter, Escalina.

In 1884 Tom Thaxton took for his second wife Sarah Jane Parker, daughter of the Rev. Joseph Parker, a pioneer Methodist Circuit Rider, who at this time lived on Wallace Creek. Sarah Jane Parker was born in South Carolina but came with her parents to Texas at an early age.

To the marriage of Thomas Benjamin Thaxton and Sarah Jane Parker six children were born, namely: Parker Thaxton, Rufus Thaxton, Thomas Thaxton, Early Thaxton, Elnor Thaxton and Robert Thaxton.

In 1900 Tom Thaxton sold his Wallace Creek ranch and farm to W. C. Cock and settled at Stiles, Reagan County, Texas. He was engaged in the ranching business most of his lifetime, never joined the church or any lodge; his second wife was a member of the Methodist Church. His death occurred at Mesilla Park, New Mexico, March 17th, 1917, and remains laid to rest in Wallace Creek Cemetery. The wife survived till February 7th, 1939, then died at El Paso, Texas.

JOSEPH CAMPBELL is said to have settled on Wallace Creek in 1852; four years before San Saba County was organized. For his home place Joe Campbell chose a level black land flat, near the confluence of Latham Creek (so named for the Jack Latham family, who lived there at one time) and Wallace Creek. Several acres of Campbell's good black land was open, that is to say, free from tree growth or brush. No grubbing was needed to place it in cultivation, just plow up the heavy mesquite grass turf. This Mr. Campbell lost no time in doing, as he had good work oxen, bull tongue plows, thus being well equipped for farming.

Living at Henderson, Texas, were Chancy Couch and family, and Couch's son-in-law, Jack Latham and family. Campbell and Couch were brothers-in-law through their wives, whose maiden name was Moffit, and they were sisters. Margaret Ann, youngest daughter of Chancy and Isabell Couch, was a frail child and medical treatment seemed to not help her a great deal, so their family physician advised that for her sake, that they move west. The Joe Campbells, when writing to their relatives, the Couches and Lathams, at Henderson, stressed the healthfulness of Wallace Creek country, the abundance of wild game and the worlds of good land to be had for almost nothing. These glowing descriptions of Wallace Creek prevailed, and soon the Couch and Latham families were on their way west. which meant Wallace Creek, Household goods, farming implements were loaded on their two big ox wagons, and then the women and children climbed in. The men and boys. for the most part, either walked or rode horseback. Several kinsmen, young men and big boys, anxious to see the new country, volunteered to help drive the cattle and sheep, for their board. As conditions are today (1951) the distance from Henderson, Texas, to Wallace Creek, Texas, is a short journey; the automobile and airplane have annihilated distance; then people traveled on foot, horseback or in wagons drawn by horses or oxen, mostly the latter. Travel conditions being what they were, our travelers were on the road almost a month; well, what of it? No one ever got in a rush, that is to say, no one ever got on his tiptoes, eager and anxious to go yonder quick and fast. Why hurry?

plenty of time to get there, if not today then tomorrow or next week, would be just as good. Life is brief enough, at best, it will end too soon anyway, and to hurry through it is the height of folly. Anyway, our little troupe arrived at their destination in due time.

Mrs. M. I. Barber, granddaughter of Chancy and Isabell Couch, says that the Couch and Latham families stopped on Wallace Creek a year or two, grazing their cattle and sheep on the fine open range, and doing some farming on the Joe Campbell place. In the meantime Mr. Couch and son-in-law, Jack Latham, were looking around for a location. This they found in the southwestern part of the county, on Deer Creek, where there was a good spring of water. A log house home was constructed, and both families occupied it.

About this time young Lawrence Hayes, in company with Dr. J. W. (?) Hudson and son and daughter, Blake and Norah, arrived in San Saba County from Alabama. The Hudsons settled near the A. J. Rose farm and mill, now the Sloan Community, Lawrence Haves had met Ann Couch at her brother-in-law's home. Joe Campbell, on Wallace Creek. and became very much interested in her, in fact, fell deeply in love, and as after results showed, the interest was mutual. It was after the Couch and Latham families had left Wallace Creek and had moved into their new home on Deer Creek that Lawrence Hayes found his way to the new home, and paid court to the fair Ann Couch, and won her consent to marriage. Alas for them, the Civil War was on. W. L. Hayes, John Christian, John Williams, Hugh S. Barber, George Gregg and some others went to Burnet, Texas, and enlisted in the Confederate Army.

After the unusual experience of two attacks of the measles, Lawrence Hayes' health became so bad that he was sent home on furlough. Before his furlough expired, his friends were convinced that his health was so broken that army life would soon lay him in the grave, and sent a petition asking for a transfer from the army to civilian duty. Mr. Hayes was very reluctant to accept the transfer, or rather, to be released from military duty, but it was evident that a sick man was no good as a soldier. So, re-

gretfully, W. L. Hayes accepted the honorable discharge from the Confederate Army, and became Tax Collector of McCulloch County, also Justice of the Peace and Deputy Sheriff. At this time the county lines of Mason, McCulloch and San Saba counties, in this section, seem not to have been very well defined.

A few months after receiving his discharge from the Confederate Army, Lawrence Hayes and Ann Couch mounted their saddle ponies and rode to San Saba, where a nearby camp meeting was in session, and here they had their marital bonds sealed. They honeymooned a few days among friends and then returned home.

Mrs. M. I. Barber, daughter of Lawrence and Ann Haves, says that at this time the Chancy Couch, Jack Latham and Lawrence Haves families all lived under the same roof, in a log house covered with boards. More room was needed in the communal home, so it was proposed that another room be added to it, and boards would be needed with which to cover it. So on the 6th day of October, 1864. Chancy Couch took rifle and ax and walked up Deer Creek looking for board timber. The gun was taken along in case he had opportunity to secure a venison, and as protection against roving Indians. A venison was sighted and shot. but not fata'ly, at once, and it escaped. A good tree for board timber was found and chopped down, with the expectation of returning on the morrow with help and making boards. For the benefit of those who may not know about roof boards, we will here digress long enough to explain roof boards.

A tree of proper size and straight grain is selected, cut down and sawed into convenient blocks, say from two to four feet long, then with one man holding the froe, properly set on the block of wood, and another man wielding the maul, boards are rived from the block. These boards are usually one-half inch thick, and about six inches wide, being same thickness at each end. Boards were nailed on hand split lath shingle fashion with six penny cut nails. A good board roof was very satisfactory and durable.

In the early 1860's A. Johnson Rose built a rock dam, impounding the waters of Walnut (now known as Sloan)

Springs, built a saw and grist mill which was powered by a huge overshot water wheel, which was turned by the impounded waters of Walnut Springs. At that time there was much good cottonwood timber in that section, also considerable red or white elm and hackberry, suitable for lumber making. The Rose Mill cut flooring, boxing and other dimention lumber, but no shingles. Cottonwood made a strong light weight lumber but required many nails to hold it in place, as it warped continually. Uncle Henry Ellis said that a cottonwood plank left out in the sun would warp until it could not lie still. Hackberry lumber made beautiful floors; it is almost white in color and free of splinters, the grain is very fine.

On the morrow, which was October 7th, Couch and Hayes hitched their oxen to the cart, and went up Deer Creek to make boards. Follows the story given by letter dated April 12th, 1890, by W. L. Hayes to me: Fredonia, Texas, April 12th, 1890. Dear Jimmie: At last I can reply to your request, though I am very sick.

On the 7th day of October, 1864, my father-in-law, Chancy Couch, and I, with a frame on the front wheels of an old wagon, and a voke of oxen for a team, Mr. Couch driving, went up the creek (Deer Creek) after board timber, we had cut previously. When we started he asked me to take my rifle and kill a deer, as he wanted venison, and he had shot one the evening before but did not get it. went at a brisk walk ahead of him, and could hear him driving the team up to where the cart turned back towards our ranch. I crossed a small ridge to the timber, and took the bark off of one cut, and waited a few minutes for the cart to come with the tools for splitting the timber, halloed and hearing no reply, walked down to the other timber. supposing that the cart had broken down, which was very dry and tires loose. I returned my steps to meet Mr. Couch. and on crossing the ridge discovered hundreds of buzzards collecting. I left the trail and searched for the deer Mr. Couch had shot at this place the evening before believing that the vultures were collecting for the carcass. Of course I failed to find the deer. I then started for the trail the cart should have come, and in crossing a small shallow ravine

I found the body of Chancy Couch (at a point three hundred vards east of where the cart had been, as we found afterwards) scalped and naked, one shoe on and the other one off. Everything gone except the shoes. He had been speared in the left breast clear through the body, shot twice with arrows. He had no firearm and if he had been looking for the red devils, he could not have seen them more than fifty yards away. One of the pieces of the cart frame was lying in the direction he went from the cart track; he could not have run the distance. I think the Indiahs took the rope off the oxen, threw it on him and took him to where they killed him. I think the scantling found so far from the cart track was used by Mr. Couch as a weapon of self defense. There were eleven pony tracks in the trail. The Indians went on to Fall Creek, where they killed a beef and left Mr. Couch's pocket knife, stole a good number of horses, and came back near the same trail two days after they killed Mr. Couch. About thirty men from Cherokee were in hot pursuit, but the Indians eluded them near Spice Rock, Mason County.

Hoping that you can dress this rough sketch down till it will be of some value to you.

I am yours truly, W. L. Hayes."

As Mr. Hayes describes the horrible death of Chancy Couch so vividly and so impressively, I can see no point in "dressing it down," so will let his letter speak for itself.

W. Lawrence Hayes served as Land Surveyor for San Saba County for a number of years. He was an able surveyor, and did a lot of the County's surveying. It may not be generally known that the surveyor's instrument, no matter how good it may be, as the years go by, gets out of true (some say that this is due to the shifting of the magnetic pole), and if correct work is to be done the instrument must be corrected or adjusted. Surveyors, we understand, as a rule, send their instruments to the makers for adjustment. Not so, W. L. Hayes; he adjusted his own instrument. Upon a certain time, I well remember, he was doing some surveying for my father, the late Thomas A. Sloan, Mr. Hayes made the remark, "that his instru-

ment was considerably off," and to do correct work quite a bit of extra figuring was necessary, and given a clear night and some one to help him a little, he could correct the instrument. It fell to my lot to be his helper. So at a late hour one clear night, Mr. Hayes, with his instrument and myself, repaired to an open spot, that is to say, a place where an uninterrupted view of the north star could be had. Having previously prepared a clean white paper with a pin hole near its center, this I held a certain distance from the set-up instrument, and Mr. Hayes, looking through the field glass and pin hole in the paper, was to catch a sight on the north star. This proved a tedious, difficult job. After many trials and failures, he sang out, "All right, I caught it." From this observation the instrument was adjusted.

W. L. Hayes was a fine draughtsman, making as pretty maps (surveyors call them plats) as one would care to see. Though in later years his right hand became so palsied that he had to quit making plats or have them made. He died at home Feb. 19th, 1907, and the wife, Ann Couch-Hayes, died February 27th, 1928.

TABITHA BREWSTER: The subject of this sketch was born in Missouri in 1838, and was one of the pioneers of Wallace Creek. Just what year she arrived at Wallace Creek, I have been unable to learn, but by hearing old timers of that community speak of her and her children, it must have been in the 1850's or early 1860's. Some of the oldest settlers of Wallace Creek speak of Mrs. or the widow Brewster, but never mention her husband's name.

The U. S. Census for the year 1870 gives her personal estate as valued at \$165.00, and gives her occupation as a seamstress, also lists four children in the family: Louisana Brewster, age eleven years; Fentina Brewster, age seven years; Mary F. Brewster, age three years; Ellen J. Brewster, age one year, all of which may have been born on Wallace Creek, but not likely. At this time there was living on Wallace Creek a man named Temp (Matt) Brown, who had four small children. He was also a Missourian. He

and Mrs. Brewster were united in marriage, no date available.

Fentine (he was generally known as Fent) Brewster went up the trail with cattle with Jim Henderson, Jr., in 1867 or 1868. Mary Brewster helped in the house for the T. A. Sloan family about 1870 or a little earlier.

ISRAEL MATHIAS HARKEY, son of Jacob Harkey, was born in North Carolina, near the present site of the City of Charlotte, June 9th, 1797, deceased Nov. 3rd, 1896, at his home, Harkeyville, San Saba county, Texas, buried in Odd Fellows (now City) Cemetery, near San Saba.

We are told that the name HARKE, HARKER was Anglicized to HARKEY, originated in Holland and from there moved to England, shortly afterward it scattered over the earth. One branch of which settled in North Carolina, and after a time split again and one branch moved to Arkansas and settled at or near Little Rock and Pleasant Valley. The record shows that Mathias Harkey owned and operated a general merchandising store at Pleasant Valley, Ark., in 1852 and later. Olga Harkey, great-grandson of Mathias Harkey, has in his possession an account sales book used by Mathias Harkey in his Pleasant Valley store. The writer had the privilege of examining this ancient sales book, and in order that the reader get a clear idea of prices of certain articles, groceries, etc., one hundred years ago, and to point out the wide range of things Mathias Harkey handled in connection with his store. I have selected. at random, from his old account book, a few items listed in it.

W. J. Harkey Dr. to Mathias Harkey Pleasant Valley, Arkansaw, 1852.

July 5th,	1852—1 Gal. Molases	*******************	
July 5th,	1852—2 Qts. whiskey		60
July 5th,	1852—6 plugs tobaco	***************************************	2.25
July 5th,	1852—1 knife		
July 5th,	1852—28 Llbs coffee		4.00
Aug. 6th,	, 1852—2 plugs tobaco		1.75
Aug. 6th	, 1852—1 bot. whiskey		15
Aug. 6th,	, 1852—1 box pills	***************************************	

C. Brewer Dr. to Mathias Harkey Sept. 10th, 1852—20 Lbs beef
Thos. Gunter Dr. to Mathias Harkey Oct. 2nd, 1852—1 gal. whiskey
Daniel Harkey Dr. to Mathias Harkey Oct. 1st, 1852—1 Qt whiskey .15 Oct. 1st, 1852—1 dollar cash 1.00 Oct. 1st, 1852—1 Wagon 50.00 Oct. 1st, 1852—1 cow 10.00 Oct. 1st, 1852—1 steer 8.00 Oct. 1st, 1852—1 heifer 6.00
A. Hall Dr. to Mathias Harkey Dec. 10th, 1855—197 pounds at 4 cents
W. J. Harkey Dr. to Mathias Harkey Dec. 12th, 1855—1 yoke of oxing
San Saba County account of cattle I sold in year 1855-1856 1 oxing 25.00 1 oxing 20.00 1 oxing 25.00 1 yoke Oxing 55.00 Credit for 10 bushels corn at 35 cents 3.50 Credit for 262 pounds of pork at 4 cents 10.48
Israel Harkey Dr. to Mathias Harkey Dec. 10th, 1856—for corn 25.00 Credit work on my mill 3 days at 50 cents 1.50
C. Trowbridge Dr. to Mathias Harkey San Saba, Texas, 1868, To cash at 10 per cent Interest from date

The old account book from which the above items were taken was used by Mathias Harkey while operating a store in Pleasant Valley, Arkansas and also after he came to San Saba county, Texas. The book was bound in heavy boards but is now ripped down the back entirely, and the back is loose from its leaves. It is $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches by $15\frac{1}{2}$ inches in size, the paper is pale blue in color and of first class grade. There are a few indistinct perpendicular lines from top to bottom of the paper but no lateral ones. It is in the possession of Olga Harkey, great-grandson of Mathias Harkey. He graciously loaned it to me for inspection.

The wife, CATHERIN FURR-HARKEY, was a native of North Carolina, also, having been born there Oct. 9th. 1801, deceased July 20th, 1892, at the home of her daughter, Catherine Harkey-McDaniel, at the ripe age of 92 years and 11 days.

Mathias Harkey and Catherine Furr were united in marriage Mar. 6th, 1821, and to this union eight children were born, namely:

- (1) William J. Harkey, who married Nancy Smith.
- (2) Caroline Harkey, who married John Jackson Brown.
- (3) Riley Harkey, born Mar. 25th, 1832, deceased Jan. 5th, 1920, who married Caroline Barbara Harkey.
- (4) Polly Ann Harkey, who married George Armentrout, a Virginian, born in 1838.
- (5) Israel Mathias Harkey, born Jan. 10th, 1835, in North Carolina, deceased 8-6-1914, who married Cansad.a Gunter Mar. 11th, 1858, deceased June 29th, 1925.
- (6) Levi Harkey, born —, deceased —, married Polly Ann Harkey.
- (7) Adeline Harkey, born —, deceased —, married Barlow Trowbridge.
- (8) Catherine Harkey, born —, deceased —, married Isaac McDaniel.

It was in 1854 that Mathias Harkey's two sons, Riley and Israel, had left Little Rock, Arkansas, looking for a new and better location, and as Texas was much talked of by home coming travelers as a land flowing with milk and

honey, they naturally turned in that direction. Early in the spring they arrived at a point on the Colorado River not far from the present town of Bend, crossed the Colorado River at Eagle Ford and moved up Cherokee Creek. stopping for a time somewhere on that beautiful stream. but not for long. Next we hear of them on Wallace Creek. Their hunt was ended, this land and country was just what they wanted — level black land, fine grass, lots of spring water running through it, deer could be seen no matter the direction one looked, wild turkeys gobbled night and morning and small game, such as quail and squirrels, well, there were simply millions of them. Back to Arkansas the two young men rode (they were horseback). Father Mathias Harkey and the rest of them were soon convinced that Wallace Creek, San Saba county, Texas, was a very desirable land and, most assuredly, the place for them. So wagons were loaded with household goods, farming implements. tools and whatever else of the family belongings that could be crowded into the wagons. Early one sunshiny morning Old Colie and Lep and the other oxen were brought out and voked and hitched to the wagons, during which time the women and children were all comfortably in their wagons. Some of the boys rode horseback and some walked beside the ox teams, directing their movements. The trip to Wallace Creek was made in good time and without any bad mishap — they landed at their destination noon June 11th. 1855.

The Mathias Harkey family came to San Saba county almost a year before it was organized, which was in May 1856. Soon after coming to San Saba county, according to an old account sales book, Mathias Harkey operated a general store for a few years and then did trading in livestock and loaned money to his neighbors. Nov. 3rd, 1896, at his home, Harkeyville, Texas, Mathias Harkey passed to his reward and was laid to rest in Odd Fellows' Cemetery, since purchased by City of San Saba, and called San Saba City Cemetery, and has also been enlarged by an addition given by the late Mrs. May Holman, widow of George P. Holman, M. D.

The wife, Mrs. Catherine Furr-Harkey, whose death

came to pass July 20th, 1892, and whose funeral was reported by a local newspaper, we hereby present a copy of it: "Catherine Harkey. This aged mother departed this life on the 20th Inst at the residence of her oldest living daughter. Mrs. Catherine McDaniel, at the ripe age of 93 years and 11 days, having been born Oct. 9th, 1801. What wonderful events and changes in all the conditions of life have occurred in all these years. Born in the infancy of the American Republic, she has been a witness of its rise to the proud position she now occupies as among the first on the roll of nations. Old enough at the period of the second struggle with Great Britain to remember the stirring events connected with it. She has witnessed its phenomenal rise and successful overthrow of every obstacle. Indeed the changes, vicisitudes, and dangers this old mother has witnessed and passed through would fill a goodly sized volume alone. She has living, six children, W. J. Harkey, aged 70 years; Catherine McDaniel, aged 65 years; Riley Harkey, aged 62 years; I. M. Harkey, aged 59 years; Mary Armentrout, aged 56 years: Adeline Trowbridge, aged 52 vears. She has grandchildren living, 65, great-grandchildren, 205; and great-great-grandchildren, 11; making a total of her descendants 287 now living. Mrs. Harkey retained her physical vigor to a wonderful degree to about two years ago, when she was crippled by an accident, before which she was able to walk the distance of a mile without the assistance from others. Her numerous descendants in this county, both male and female, are noted for their fine physical energy and thrift.

"The dear old mother has put off mortality with all its accompanying trials and sorrows, to put on immortality in the presence of He, who said, 'Come unto me all who are weary and heavy laden and I will give you rest'."

WILLIAM J. HARKEY AND NANCY SMITH-HARKEY.

William J. Harkey was the oldest child of Mathias and Catherine Furr-Harkey, born in North Caroline Dec. 10th, 1824, deceased at his home in San Saba county, Texas, Dec. 6th, 1910. At the age of about 18 years, with his parents, moved to Yell county, Ark., and settled about fifteen

years, and here it was that he met Miss Nancy Smith and they were happily married.

Riley and Israe! Harkey, brothers of W. J. Harkey, in 1854 went to San Saba county, Texas, in search of a location, returning to Arkansas they gave such glowing accounts of Texas that the whole of the Mathias Harkey family decided to move to that fair land. W. J. Harkey and family joined in with his father's family and they all moved to Texas, landing in San Saba county on Wallace Creek June 11th, 1855.

The wife, Nancy J. Smith-Harkey, was a native of Arkansas, born there July 30th, 1831, deceased at home in San Saba county, Texas, May 26th, 1996.

W. J. Harkey purchased a fine tract of San Saba river bottom land on the south bank of the river, erected a home and moved his family to it and it was here that Billie and Nancy Harkey lived out their earthly days.

William J. Harkey and Nancy J. Smith-Harkey had born to them eleven children, as follows:

- (1) Lou Harkey, who married Gilbert Allen.
- (2) Israel Jeff Harkey, who married Trulove Cornett.
- (3) James M. Harkey, who married 1st Geraldine Kuykendall. 2nd Ann Prescott.
- (4) Vicy Harkey, who married Felix Swailes.
- (5) John Harkey, who married Laura Hamrick.
- (6) Hugh Harkey, who married Molly Whitehead.
- (7) Ellen Harkey, who married John Presswood.
- (8) Emma Harkey, who married Wallace Hawkins.
- (9) Thomas G. Harkey, who married Hortense Rue.
- (10) Henry W. Harkey, who married Iona Duncan.
- (11) Aline Harkey, who married Sam Stewart.

JOHN JACKSON BROWN AND CAROLINE HARKEY-BROWN

John Jackson Brown came from Yell county, Arkansas, in 1855 and settled at Richland Springs, San Saba county, Texas. In addition to building a house for his family home, he also erected a small shack for a blacksmith shop.

Caroline Harkey-Brown was the second child of Mathias and Caroline Harkey, and a native of North Carolina but an early immigrant to Little Rock, Arkansas, where she and John Jackson Brown were married a short time before they and the Mathias Harkeys came to Texas.

John Jackson and Caroline Brown had born to them eleven children.

- (1) Lavinia Brown, who married Bob Duncan.
- (2) Polly Ann Brown, who married Alec Hall.
- (3) Jasper Brown, who married Clara Hutcheson.
- (4) Newton Brown, who married Ocelia Hyde.
- (5) Manervia Brown, who married James Fleming.
- (6) John Brown, who married Bell Hall.
- (7) Lawson Brown, who married Maud Terry.
- (8) Rebecca Brown, who married Doc Chapman.
- (9) George Brown, who married Dora Terry.
- (10) Elizabeth Brown, who married Giles Rountree.
- (11) Leah Brown, who married Perry Fleming.

The descendants of Jackson and Caroline Brown are numerous, and many of them live in the Richland Springs area

In the book, EARLY DAYS IN SAN SABA COUNTY, TEXAS, is an article on Newton Brown, the fourth child of Jackson and Caroline Brown.

RILEY HARKEY AND CAROLINE BARBARA HARKEY

Riley Harkey, 3rd child of Mathias and Catherine Harkey, was born in North Carolina near the present site of Charlotte, March 25th, 1832, deceased January 5th, 1920. buried in Odd Fellows (now San Saba City) Cemetery. With his parents in 1840, Riley Harkey moved to or near Little Rock, Arkansas, where the entire Mathias Harkey family remained until 1855, when they moved to San Saba county, Texas, and settled, the most of them, on Wallace Creek.

It was early in the year of 1854 that Riley Harkey and his brother, Israel Harkey, left their home in Arkansas, on horseback, looking for a new and better location. Many travelers, who had been west and south viewing the vast

domains of those regions, returning, described central Texas in glowing terms. Riley and Jeff (Israel Harkey was often called Jeff) Harkey headed for Texas. In due course of time they arrived at a point on the Colorado river near the present town of Bend. They crossed the Colorado river at Eagle Ford and rode up the beautiful Cherokee Creek and stopped, but not for long. The next time Riley Harkey appeared on the scene was soon after the events just related and he was on Wallace Creek, San Saba county, He and brother Israel had left Arkansas looking for a good location and, truth to say, they had found a paradise. Their hopes and expectations were fulfilled, the search was ended. After a space of time in which to rest their horses, back to Arkansas they went. The home journey ended and their report given as to their findings in Texas was received with enthusiastic approval. At once Mathias Harkey began to cast about as to the disposal of his no small property; consultations were had with wife and other members of the family: at last the decision was that early in the spring of 1855 when the grass was good enough to feed the work oxen and the weather not too cold, the entire Harkey family, or families rather, for some of the older children were married and had families of their own. So on June 11th, 1855. after a long, uneventful trip, they arrived at Wallace Creek.

The wife: Caroline Barbara Harkey, born March 3rd, 1837, deceased May 12th, 1905, at her home, Harkeyville, San Saba county, Texas, buried by side of her husband in Odd Fellows (now San Saba City) Cemetery. Caroline and Riley Harkey were first cousins, he being the son of Mathias Harkey, and the daughter of a brother of Mathias. Caroline and Riley Harkey were united in marriage and to this union were born seven children, namely:

- (1) Andrew Jackson Harkey, born Oct. 5th, 1865, San Saba county, Texas, married Burnett Parks.
- (2) Angelina Harkey, born Nov. 12th, 1862, married Dave Simmons.
- (3) Thomas Mathias Harkey, born Feb. 12th, 1865, in San Saba county, Texas, married Lou Dove.
- (4) Dora Catherine Harkey, born Aug. 27th, 1868, San Saba county, Texas, married Rufe Thornton.

- (5) Mary Ella Harkey, born Oct. 23rd, 1870, married Joe T. Taylor.
- (6) Henry Riley Harkey, born May 19th, 1873, in San Saba county, Texas, married Dollie Dove.
- (7) Benjamin Franklin Harkey, born May 16th, 1878, San Saba county, Texas, married Lulu Dixon.

On May 13th, 1905, the following funeral notice was issued: "The friends and acquaintances of Mr. Riley Harkey are requested to attend the funeral of his wife, Mrs. C. B. Harkey, at the family residence at Harkeyville at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon. Burial at 4 o'clock at Odd Fellows Cemetery. San Saba, Texas, Saturday, May 13th, 1905."

Thus at the age of seventy-three years Riley Harkey was left a widower: he never re-married.

Riley Harkey prospered in the livestock business. During the Civil War he had been a member of the Texas Rangers or Minute Men, whose business was to protect the settlers' cattle and horses from the many wild Indians and their depredations, and to be ready at a moments notice to meet or overtake the fierce red man when he came amongst the settlers, not only pillaging the white man's property, but killing his women and children or carrying them away into captivity. Captain Riley Wood lived at and was stationed at Richland Springs, San Saba county, and he had charge over a company of Texas Rangers, one of whom was Riley Harkey, Riley Harkey was in the Indian Hill Indian fight, in which Uncle Jimmie Henderson received two painful arrow and lance wounds, also he participated in a fight with Indians on one of Billie (Texas Almanac calls it Harkey) Knob. This fight was held by Capt. W. H. Ledbetter. In the beginning of last paragraph it is stated that after the Civil War Riley Harkey prospered. Then the country was open — that is, there were no pasture fences, and the range was free and fine. As time went by Mr. Harkey gradually accumulated a goodly number of acres of the San Saba and Wallace Creek valleys, all good, and mostly fine tillable land. Also his cattle herd increased in numbers — he both raised and bought cattle and took a big interest in breeding race horses. He has the credit of bringing the first race horse into San Saba county, though the "Shorty" Brown

family might dispute that. Follows a bill of sale of cattle from J. T. Burleson to Riley Harkey: "State of Texas, County of San Saba: Know all men by these presents that I have this day sold and delivered to Riley Harkey all the cows that I have in the Half-Circle L brand and marked (-8), hip and side, for the consideration of (\$405.00) four hundred and five dollars to me in hand paid by said Riley Harkey, and I do warrant and defend same. Given under my hand, this Sept. 15th, 1884."

"J. T. Burleson"

Witnesses: A. J. Harkey, I. M. Harkey, W. H. Prescott.

Also, here is a copy of a "withdrawal card" from the Knights of Pythias of the World. "Knights of Pythias of the World, the Grand Lodge, of the jurisdiction, authorizes Argos Lodge No. 16 of San Saba, in said jurisdiction, to issue this withdrawal card to Brother Riley Harkey, who has attained the rank KNIGHT and has been faithful to his obligations, we therefore recommend Brother and this card to all Lodges of our Chivalric Order, wherever located. This card shall be considered in force until revoked or deposited or otherwise ordered by the Supreme Lodge, and shall be subject to regulations as may be prescribed by the Grand and Subordinate Lodge in the jurisdiction where it shall be presented for deposit or re-instatement of membership. This card has no face value or visiting credential, but is evidence of former good standing in the Order.

"In Witness whereof, we have hereto affixed our signatures and seal of the Lodge.

"This 25th day of Oct., A. D. 1880, and of the Pythias Period XVII.

"Signed: J. M. Pool, C. C.

"Signed: W. K. Ward, K. of R. & S."

In the margin of the above instrument is the inscription, "Joseph Dowdall, Supreme Keeper of Records and Seal."

Follows a copy of the Mark & Brand that Riley Harkey had recorded at San Saba in the name of his wife, C. B. Harkey: "The State of Texas, San Saba county. I, Joseph F. Brown, County Clerk of the District Court and for said

county and State, do hereby certify that I have this day recorded for C. B. Harkey in the Mark & Brand Book of said county, page 161, the following mark & brand, to wit:

"Given under my hand and official seal at office in Town of San Saba, this the 18th day of Feb. A. D. 1874.

Joseph F. Brown, C. D. C. S. S. Co."

In the 1890's Riley Harkey retired from active business. Barbed wire had come into general use as a practical material for fencing large areas of land. Mr. Harkey enclosed all of his land with barbed wire fencing, reduced the numbers of his cattle herd. Years after he reached the 80 vears milestone Uncle Riley, late of an afternoon, would mount his little dun pony and ride out in the pasture to drive up the milk cows. Often he hitched up his one-horse buggy and drove into San Saba, some three miles away. The exact date is not immediately available, but at one time an effort was made to remove the County Seat from San Saba to Harkeyville. A petition to that effect was circulated and the legal number of signers for an election was obtained. The election came off on schedule but the proposition of moving the County Site was badly defeated. Riley Harkey was thrifty but not stingy, he was an ideal pioneer citizen, and in his makeup was found most of those noble. sturdy characteristics which changed the frontier from a wild Indian over-run land to one in which it is a pleasure to live.

On Jan. 5th, 1920, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Joe C. Taylor, who lived five miles west of San Saba, death came suddenly and without warning to Riley Harkey. Only a few minutes before he had been walking in the yard, as he came into the house, Mrs. Taylor asked him how he was feeling and if he wanted anything, he said, "No, I'm feeling fine today," and went and sat down in a rocking chair before the fire. Mrs. Taylor went outdoors to do some chores, and shortly was back indoors. "Uncle Riley" was sitting in the chair before the fire still and cold in death. Apparently he had died without a struggle.

ISRAEL MATHIAS HARKEY AND CANZADA GUNTER - HARKEY

Israel Mathias Harkey is the second to bear the name,

which for simplicity sake, should be written Israel Mathias Harkey, II. Born Jan. 18th, 1835, in North Carolina near present city of Charlotte, was fifth child of Mathias and Caroline Furr-Harkey, with parents came to Little Rock, Ark., 1840, and there or at Pleasant Valley (sometimes called Harkey Valley) lived about fifteen years, when the entire branch of the Harkey family moved to Wallace Creek, San Saba county, Texas, and made permanent settlement. After a short stay at Wallace Creek, Levi Harkey moved on to Richland Creek and located.

As has been stated in biographical sketch of Rilev Harkey, Israel and brother, Riley Harkey, left Little Rock early in the spring of 1854 on horseback, headed for Texas, looking for a better location for the Harkev clan. In due time they reached a point on the north bank of the Colorado river, near the present site of the village of Bend, and crossed over the Colorado river at Eagle Ford and leisurely rode up the beautiful Cherokee Creek. From here they took a west course, and that same day arrived at Wallace Creek. Here the long journey ended; spread out before them were broad acres of fine black land covered knee deep in luscious grasses, a splendid stream of clear spring water running through it, the land to be had for a song and one sing the song himself. Wild game in herds and droves everywhere. A hunter's paradise for white tail deer, turkey, black bear, quail and fox squirrel, no end of them, and only a few miles west or north the immense herds of buffalo literally shook the earth as they shifted from place to place. A few days were spent resting their saddle horses and straight back to Arkansas Israel and Riley Harkey went. No time was lost in relating their travel experiences and much praise was given of Texas and especially of Wallace Creek, in San Saba county. After much talk and family consultations all agreed and determined to move to San Saba. The father, Mathias Harkey, owned considerable property, and began casting about as to disposing of it to good advantage before moving to Texas. By early spring, 1855, the trek to Texas was ready, the grass sufficient to feed their work oxen, June, 1855, the Harkey clan landed at Wallace Creek, none the worse for the long trip.

The next important event in Israel Harkey's life that

we hear of was when he returned to Little Rock to claim his boyhood sweetheart for his bride. In 1857 Israel Harkey and Cansadia Gunter were united in marriage. They spent their honeymoon in an oxwagon on the road back to San Saba county, Texas. To this union were born eleven children, namely:

- (1) Mary Harkey, who married Jack Towerton.
- (2) Melissa Harkey, who married Ed Phillips.
- (3) Tabitha Harkey, who married Joe Turner.
- (4) Taylor Harkey, who married Lura Samson.
- (5) Isa Harkey, who married Henry Prescott.
- (6) Jennie Harkey, who married Oscar Funderburk; he deceased and she married Fletcher Thornton, second marriage, who also deceased in 1949.
 - (7) Sadie Harkey, who married Lee Funderburk.
 - (8) Levi Harkey, who married Annie Dove.
 - (9) Precilla Harkey, who married Jack Johnson.
- (10) Rosa Harkey, who married Fred McCarley, deceased, and she later married Joe Taylor.
- (11) Alvin Harkey, who married Laura Wells; he deceased by knife wounds at the hands of Paul Wycoff, son of Lon Wycoff.

Israel Harkey was thrifty and accumulated a goodly acreage of bottom land on the San Saba river near mouth of Wallace Creek. His occupation was farming, raising good cattle and horses, in which he took great pride.

He was stricken with appendicitis in 1914—surgery at that day had not reached the high point of near perfection that it is today—and his family doctor told him that his was a very serious complaint and that a major surgical operation was necessary at once, and the wise thing was to get ready for any emergency. Mr. Harkey's reply, "I am ready." The operation was made, complications set up, and in spite of the best of medical care, death came August 6th, 1914.

The wife, Cansadia Gunter-Harkey, who was born Aug. 17th, 1840, survived her husband till July 6th, 1925. They both rest in San Saba Cemetery at San Saba City, Texas.

In the Harkey family records held by Olga Harkey and

kindly loaned to this writer for inspection, is a letter addressed to Mr. Israel Harkey and family from John L. Gunter, April 15th, 1866, Arkansaw. "After my love and respects to you all I seat myself to rite you a few lines in answer to your kind letter which I received the 12th day of April, dated Jan. 2nd, 1866. It gives great satisfaction to hear from you that you was all well and doing as well as we. I will say at the start that I have not much time to write and will make every word as short as possible. I will first say that we are all well at this time except Tabitha and she is getting well very fast. She has been sick seven months.

"I can't advise you to drive here though all kinds of stock is very scarce even hogs. Bacon is 35 cents per pound. Milk cows 15 to 35 \$. Flour 8 \$ per hundred. Corn 2.00 \$ a bushel. Horses from 100 to 250 \$ per head. Sheep none at all. Work Steers well broke 50 to 100 \$. Sow pigs 25 \$ chicken 30 cents per head. You ask who is dead. I will enumerate all I can though the tears gush from my eyes at the remembrance of my brave countrymen they are gone. First Old Moses Harkey who was taken and dragged from his family and hanged by the Rebs 2 Clark Weems was stabbed and hanged 3 James Monday, Catherine Harkey's husband, was beat and hanged 2-3 Eli and Martin Harkey was drove from their home and joined the army and died in the hospital. I was in the hospital sick myself with Eli when he died. Wilson Harkey was killed by the Rebels, he died with 2 empty Revolvers in his hands. Levi Harkey was captured by the Rebels and shot. George Fink was captured and carried off and is gone. Henry Harkey died at Inisberg. I didn't belong to the army and many others are dead murdered by the rebs. There wasnt a Harkey but what was loyal to the home they all said Our Union, right or rong, and so they fought and died and when they died covered all over with glory. I and all the settlement that was able to fire a gun was Mountain Boomers till in the fall of '63 we then joined the 3rd Arkansas Cavalry and we all have our discharge the 18th day of July '65. I am still alive though I fought, bled and died 2 or 3 times through this war and hav'nt got but one round hole in my hide. I had the measles and two spells of the typhoid neumonia and

small pox while I was a soldier. One spell of the fever lasted 40 days and I am not half the man I was when the war begun but am so as to be about on 2 or 3 legs. I will bring my letter to a close hoping to hear from you soon. So farewell for a while.

"Your friend and brother

"William M. Gunter To Israel Harkey and family. "P. S. Direct your letters to Yardawell till further orders. W.M.G."

LEVI HARKEY AND POLLY ANN HARKEY

Levi Harkey, sixth child of Mathias and Catherine Harkey, born in North Carolina in 1837, and when quite small, with his parents, moved to Little Rock, Arkansas. or near that city, in 1840, and lived there about fifteen years and then moved to Texas, San Saba county, stopping for a time on Wallace Creek, and then moved to Richland Creek, same county, and made permanent settlement.

Levi Harkey engaged in farming and livestock raising; the horse was his favorite animal, and he raised good ones.

Levi Harkey and Polly Ann Harkey were united in marriage and to this union six children were born, namely:

- (1) Ardenia Harkey, who married William Cannon.
- (2) Martha Harkey, who married A. K. Bailey.
- (3) Elizabeth Harkey, who married John Huff.
- (4) Levi Harkey, who married
- (5) Sarah Harkey, unmarried.
- (6) Mary Harkey, who married Mid Hall.

BARLOW TROWBRIDGE AND ADELINE HARKEY-TROWBRIDGE

I have no data as to Barlow Trowbridge's antecedents—neither his parents, native state, birthday, entrance into San Saba county, or even his death day. At any rate the Harkey family records show that he and Adeline Harkey were united in marriage May 1st, 1859, by William Thaxton, Justice of the Peace for Precinct No. 1, San Saba county, Texas.

They had born to them nine children as follows:

- (1) Granvil Trowbridge, who married Lou McCurdy.
- (2) Steve Trowbridge, deceased in youth.
- (3) Alice Trowbridge, who married Henry Ezzell.
- (4) Senna Trowbridge, who married Keith Ezzell.
- (5) William Trowbridge never married.
- (6) Willie Walker Trowbridge never married.
- (7) Charles Trowbridge, married Lillie Bickham.
- (8) Samuel Trowbridge, bachelor.
- (9) Ollie Trowbridge

The wife: Adeline Harkey-Trowbridge, seventh child of Mathias Harkey and Catherine Furr-Harkey, was a native of the Tar Heel State, with her parents came to Arkansas, 1840, and settled at or near Little Rock for fifteen years, when the Mathias Harkeys moved to San Saba county, Texas, and settled in 1855.

ISAAC McDANIEL AND CATHERINE HARKEY-McDANIEL

Isaac McDaniel came from Arkansas to Texas in 1855, stopping for a time on Wallace Creek and then settled in what is called the Algerita area. He and Catherine Harkey were united in marriage and to them were born five children, namely:

- (1) LaFayette McDaniel, who married Masie Caveness.
 - (2) Columbus McDaniel, who married Mink Mullins.
 - (3) James McDaniel, who married Ida Caviness.
 - (4) Henry McDaniel, who married Elizabeth McKee.
 - (5) Molly McDaniel, who married John McKee.

THE CENTENNIAL REUNION OF THE DESCENDANTS OF MATHIAS HARKEY

In commemoration of the 100th year since the Harkey family, represented by Mathias Harkey, wife and eight children, came to San Saba county, Texas, June 11th, 1955. The Harkey family history records that the Mathias Harkey family landed on Walace Creek June 11th, 1855. The re-

union was held on the plat of ground surrounding the Harkey old school house, which is about 3 and 1-2 miles west of San Saba, on the old Richland Springs public highway, and on the banks of the San Saba river. The food was what is called a barbecue, which consisted of many other foods that often go with barbecue, such as coffee, ice tea, onions, pickies, brown beans, pies and cakes, potato chips, etc.

O. B. Harkey, great-grandson of Mathias and Catherine Harkey, had charge of arrangements and his wife, Bernica Harkey, was secretary. Many family relics and family pictures were exhibited. One, a love letter from Israel Harkey to his sweetheart, Cansadia Gunter, in Arkansas, was read. Dea Harkey of New Mexico, ninety years old and one time Deputy Sheriff of San Saba county under his brother, Joe Harkey, Sheriff, was present; also Rosco Harkey of Arkansas, a Harkey descendant of one who did not come to San Saba but remained in old Arkansas. It was a long happy day spent at the reunion and the time used was regretted by none.

It has been said that on mail route No. 1, San Saba county, there are twenty-one families living which bear the name Harkey.

JAMES ELIAS HENDERSON

A native of the mountains of Tennessee, and it was there Aug. 7th, 1808, that he first saw the light of day, and spent his early youth. He was of Scotch-Irish ancestry. Being of that restless adventurous disposition characteristic of those old pioneers. Early in life he pulled up stakes at the old home and came to Texas. It is not definitely known as to how or with whom he came to Texas but it is highly probable that he and his uncle, Sam Houston, came together.

Our information is that James Henderson was in Bastrop county, Texas, in 1832. Here young Henderson found plenty of adventure and excitement. Wild game was abundant, such as turkey, deer, black bear and panther, not to mention Lobo and Coyote wolves. Only a short distance to the north or west buffalos roamed by the thousands. Also vast area in which Bastrop formed a small part. Apache



JAMES HENDERSON AND WIFE, MARTHA HENDERSON — Picture Made About 1876

and Comanche and their allied tribes of Indians held swav for the most part, and not infrequently he made forays through Bastrop county and vicinity, as witness the battle of Plum Creek and Webber's Prairie.

Soon after coming to Bastrop county James Henderson joined the Texas Rangers, led by Captain Terry. The Rangers, at this time, was a band of men organized to defend themselves against depredating Indians and lawless characters of whatsoever color he might be. They furnished their own mounts, food and arms; in short, self-sustaining. They held themselves ready, at a moment's notice, should the enemy come, to engage him, and, if possible, kill him or drive him away. Of the numerous Indian tribes of Texas two of them stand out prominently as to white men encroachments on their hunting grounds; namely: Comanches and Apaches. The Comanches being more numerous, were the more difficult to deal with. By nature they were nomadic and by practice the same. No mild or tame blood ran in their veins, it was of the wildest and fiercest; for them it was freedom or death. The Federal Government, as well as Republic of Texas, made peace treaties with Indians of Texas. The claim has been made many times that the treaty made by John O. Meusebach, representing the German Colonists and Texas between the Indians of Texas, represented by their various chiefs, was never violated. This is a sad mistake, because many violations are recorded in the history of our fair land. That the reader have a clear understanding of this violation some of the provisions in the Treaty are herewith stated. The Treaty states: That for a thousand dollars worth of bright pieces of calico, trinkets and vari-colored beads, paid by John O. Meusebach, representing the German Colonists, to the said Indian Chiefs for their various tribes, would abstain from stealing horses and from killing white people. This the Treaty between Texas and the Indians. Then in 1850 John H. Rollins, special agent for the U.S. Government for the Texas Indians made a Peace Treaty with the Indian Chiefs representing the various Indian tribes of Texas. Some of its provisions were: "That the said Indians agree to refrain from horse stealing from the whites, stop depredating on them and murdering them, etc." It is a well known fact that for many

years after the above treaties were signed that more horse stealing, more depredations and murdering was done by the Comanches, Apaches, Kiowas and other Indians of Texas than ever before the Peace Treaties were signed. Soon after the State of Texas erected the memorial granite monument in 1938 on the treaty ground, near the home of Thomas A. Sloan, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Marschall of Llano county came to look at the monument. Mrs. Marschall is baby daughter of John O. Meusebach. I asked Mrs. Marschall how she liked the monument. She replied that she did not like it, because the statement engraved upon it, "This Treaty Was Never Violated," it not true.

Of the large area surveyed in Texas for the Meusebach colonists a considerable acreage of it was located in San Saba county. Indeed, Meusebach and the Indians of Texas, in 1847, held their Peace Treaty on Survey 66 in name of G. Strolle, a German Colonist tract. As has previously been stated, in order to perfect title to their lands, the colonists must live on their lands a stated time. In San Saba county this was never done, "because the Indians were so bad." And this state of affairs continued in varying degree until 1875 when the U. S. Government moved them to the Indian Territory (now Oklahoma), a country set aside for them.

One of the most important events in James Henderson's life was when he joined Gen. Sam Houston's army and helped win the independence of Texas at the battle of San Jacinto April 21, 1835, where 783 heroic Texans overwhelmingly defeated 1500 picked Mexican soldiers under the celebrated General Santa Anna. It was not so much the number of men engaged in the battle of San Jacinto but the glorious results. Texas had gained her independence, an empire reaching from the Sabine river to the Pacific Ocean had been won. Mexico conceded the Independence of Texas but did not give up claim to that vast New Mexico territory until Generals Scott and Taylor convinced her of her error.

The Republic of Texas paid her soldiers in land—she had very little money but uncounted millions of acres of land. The following is taken from the land archives at Austin, Texas: THE RECORD OF JAMES ELIAS HENDERSON, CITIZEN AND SOLDIER OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

James Henderson, classified as a Second Class L and Grantee of the Republic of Texas, received from the Brazoria County Board of Land Commissioners, a Conditional Second Class Land Certificate, No. 593, calling for 640 acres of land. A surveyor's notation written on the back of this worn and aged certificate, reads: "Located on Pinta Piedra, 35 miles north of San Patricia, Surveyed Aug. 1st, 1838, by J. H. White, Dist. Surveyor, Laben Power and Levi Power, Chain Carriers."

On the cover of this San Patricio District File No. 42 is written, "Unconditional Certificate not in the General Land Office, August 20th, 1847. Copy of Conditional Certificate has been withdrawn by Wm. M. Cook, Ass., on October 18th, 1855." (Reference: San Patricio District 2nd Class, File No. 42.)

On November 5th, 1846, a second class Duplicate Certificate No. 408-507, calling for 640 acres of land, was issued to James Henderson by Commissioner (of Claims?) Ward in lieu of the loss of his Bastrop County Second Class Headright Certificate No. 357, calling for 640 acres, dated August 10th, 1839, which was issued to James Henderson by the Board of Bastrop County Land Commissioners. ("Traveling Board of Land Commissioners.")

Act of the Legislature: On May 1st, 1871, the Texas Legislature passed a Special Headright Certificate Act for the relief of James Henderson, known as the Special Act Second Class Headright Certificate No. 13-162, calling for 640 acres, authorizing the General Land Commissioner to issue said Certificate for 640 acres to James Henderson, in lieu of the loss of Second Class Conditional Certificate No. 357, dated August 10th, 1839, issued to him by the Bastrop County Board of Land Commissioners. This Special Act Headright Certificate is signed by Jacob Kuechler, May 22nd, 1871. Field notes: First located in Clay county between the Big Wichita and Red river, about 20 miles NW of Henrietta. Surveyed on March 28th, 1873. These Field Notes are cancelled for relocation in McCulloch county. Surveyed on December 18th, 1874, by W. H. Wadsworth, District Surveyor of San Saba Land District, and situated on the Colorado river, 15 miles N, 25 W, from the center of

McCulloch county. Chain Carriers were: Charles Euget, G. W. Rowe.

Patented to W. H. Daniels on May 12eh, 1874, McCulloch County, Book "B."

AFFIDAVIT OF OWNERSHIP: On November 21st, 1874, James Henderson, resident of San Saba county, signed an affidavit of ownership, stating that he had never sold, alienated or transferred to anyone in any manner his Special Headright Certificate 13-162, calling for 640 acres. He requested that a copy of said Certificate be issued to C. R. Johns & Co., Agents for relocation.

Signed: James Henderson, before James F. Brown, Clerk, M. H. Wadsworth, Deputy Clerk. (Reference: Finance District, Second Class, File No. 677, General Land Office.)

JAMES HENDERSON'S ARMY RECORD

(Reference: Travis District Bounty Class, File No. 38, Comal County.)

JAMES HENDERSON FOR TWELVE MONTHS service in the Army of THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS, from Dec. 14th, 1836, to Dec. 14th, 1837, and receiving an honorable discharge, is entitled to 1280 acres of bounty land, he being entitled to hold, sell, alienate and to donate same, and exercise all rights of ownership over it. THIS BOUNTY CERTIFICATE No. 3236, calling for 1280 acres, dated May 8th, 1838, was issued to James Henderson, by Benard B. Bee, Sec. of War, and B. T. Archer, Sec. of the Navy, at Houston, Texas, Certificate is approved April 30th, 1841. Written across the back of this frayed, yellow colored Certificate is this surveyor's note: "Located on Perdenales Creek, a tributary of the Colorado river, surveyed Dec. 22nd, 1838, by Samuel H. Reid, D.S.C.B." Field Notes: Survev No. 46 of 1280 acres, made for James Henderson, situated in Travis County (now Comal), on the north side Guadalupe River, surveyed Oct. 15th, 1845, by William B. Wallace, C.S.T.C. Chainmen: Elihue Casner, L. D. Puckett.

Surveyor's	sketch:				44		
		p and controlled	21	Ì	46	İ	47

Note: Surveys No. 44 and 47 are in the name of Gordon C. Jennings.

The Comanches and Lipans were long-time enemies. Comanches were a strong, thrifty, aggressive nation, and growing rapidly in numbers, whereas the Lipans were few in number, and instead of increasing in numbers seemed to be actually dying out slowly but none the less surely.

Chief Castro of the Lipans, entered into a Treaty with the whites against their common enemy, the Comanches. previous to 1839. Some Lipan Indians, while hunting along the San Saba river in the winter of 1839, discovered a large camp of their enemy, the Comanches. This was a flagrant invasion of the Lipan hunting grounds, so the hunters hurriedly returned to the white settlement to apprise their friends of the situation. Further investigation showed that the Comanches had a convenient base on the San Saba river from which they could depredate on the white settlements at will. It was determined to oust the invaders at once, so, under the leadership of Colonel John Moore, an old experienced Indian fighter, about sixty white men, and the same number of Lipan warriors, under Chief Castro, as allies and scouts-all subject to Col. Moore's orders, were organized. Colonel Moore advanced up the Colorado river till reaching its confluence with the San Saba river the advance was directed up it. Malcom Hornsby and Joe Martin, Lipan scouts, had been sent in advance and they reported that the Comanches were receiving additional numbers right along. Col. Moore's plan of attack was: That Chief Castro take a part of his warriors and capture the Comanche's horses. and that he, himself, with his white soldiers and the rest of Lipan warriors attack the enemy at daylight the next morning. The Comanche encampment was a large one, being winter quarters for numerous bands of Comanche Indians, including their women and children, J. W. Wilbarger says that the camp contained many teepees and temporary wigwams, filled with warriors, women and children.

According to plan, Col. Moore and men, at dawn, charged the encampment, firing a volley into the teepees and wigwams, killing indiscriminately, warriors, squaws and children. The Lipans did good work with their bows and arrows. The attack was so sudden and unexpected that the

wildest confusion followed. Texans and warriors alike were yelling, squaws screaming and the terror-stricken children's shrieks could be heard above all, now and then. Everything was a badly mixed confusion, so much so it was a wonder that friend did not shoot friend. The Indians were slowly recovering from surprise and making some progress towards order, and Col. Moore, finding that he was greatly outnumbered, regretfully ordered a retreat. The Indians, fully recovered, rallied and now charged the whites time and time again, but Moore's deadly rifles were too much for them, and they were hurled back. One warrior, too badly wounded to retreat, lay flat on his back and shot arrows into the sky in such fashion that they fell to earth among the Texans point down. Finally a well aimed bullet stopped the boomerang business.

Chief Castro, as Col. Moore had directed, captured the Comanche's horses, but had too few men to handle them, or hold them, rather, and at the same time repel the Comanches, who would undertake to recapture their horses, and did recapture the most of them. The horses that Chief Castro succeeded in getting away with he did not bring into Col. Moore's camp.

Miss Matilda Lockhart, who had been taken prisoner by the Indians in a previous raid, was with the Indians in their winter encampment, and her father was with Col. Moore in this battle. This fight was February 14th, 1839. We have no direct proof that James Henderson was a member of the Moore expedition, but it is a family tradition that he was.

The Comanches determined that their enemies, the white man, should have no rest, and proposed to harass him

at every opportunity.

Col. Moore returned from his San Saba Expedition February 18th, 1839, expecting to spend a few peaceful days at home, such was not to be the case. Fleet riders from Bastrop to Austin spread the news by word of mouth that Indians had, the day before, raided Wells or Weber's Prairie or both. It afterwards turned out that the raid had been on the upper end of Weber's Prairie, and that they had murdered Mrs. Colman and her son, Albert, who was fifteen years of age. A band of some two or three hundred In-

dians suddenly appeared at the Colman home; Mrs. Colman was working in the nearby garden, and had her sons, Albert and Tommie, and two small daughters with her. At the approach of the savages. Mrs. Colman and children ran for the house, and though they had a hard time of it, all excepting Tommie, reached the house. Tommie was captured by the velling savages, and just as Mrs. Colman entered the doorway an arrow pierced her throat, but before expiring she told fifteen year old Ablert to get the gun and protect his sisters from the cruel Indians. Albert fought like a hero for some time but finally received a mortal wound, and died with his head pillowed in his oldest sister's lap. His last words, "Sister, I can't do any more for you, farewell." The little girls crawled under the bed and kept talking to each other, as they had been told to do, as this might keep the Indians from coming into the house, thus saving their lives and the house from being plundered. The husband, James Colman, and a companion by the name of Rogers, escaped to the Colorado bottom.

Dr. J. W. Robertson and family, neighbors of the James Colmans, were absent from home, visiting a neighbor and son-in-law, Colonel Henry Jones. The doctor's home was plundered, feather beds ripped open to the free air, and seven of his Negro slaves taken captive.

THE BATTLE OF THE BRUSHY

Now comes the fight between the white settlers and the Comanche Indians, called by historians generally, I believe, The Battle of the Brushy. The raids on the Colman and Robertson homes, and the brutal murder of Mrs. Colman and her son, Albert, aroused the white settlers to the point where they determined to punish the red devils quickly and thoroughly.

By noon twenty-five or more citizen soldiers had come together and elected Jacob Burleson their Captain; an hour or two later 27 men from down the river, led by Captain James Rogers, brother-in-law to Captain Burleson, came on the ground, making 52 altogether. So eager and anxious were these men to go after the red enemy that no more officers were elected. Captains Burleson and Rogers were to head two columns and to lead out at once. Mr. Adkinson,

who was one of the white men in the battle to follow, says that at ten o'clock the next day, the Indians were sighted about three miles away, and north of Brushy and between themselves and the Indian band was a large thicket and that the Indians were headed towards it, seemingly with the intention of occupying it, and from that vantage giving us battle. The thicket had been our objective, and to be cheated out of our objective was not to be allowed, so we opened up to flank the enemy on their right and to their left. We were all well mounted, while some of the Indians were on foot. We should have gained the thicket, and would have had it not been for a few men that flinched, which threw the whole command into a state of confusion, resulting in the death of Captain Burleson and our inglorious flight from the battlefield, leaving his remains to the mercy of the enemy. Some of us dismounted, hitched our horses and took stands against the enemy as many as three times. but at last had to retreat. While doing this W. W. Wallace's horse pulled loose and ran into the Indians, who quickly appropriated him to their own use. Captain Jack Hayes, seeing Wallace's peril, made a dash for the unlucky man and pulled him up on his horse behind, and both made a safe retreat. William Wallace, father of W. W. Wallace, lived in Tennessee, and when he heard of his son's rescue, presented Captain Hayes with an elegant rifle, handsomely mounted. Mr. Adkinson further states that our entire command fell back to Brushy, in a mile long line, the Indians not following. The most of us were mortified at the result of the morning's conflict, and ashamed to return to the settlements without a further trial to best the enemy. While halted and not knowing what to do with ourselves. General Ed Burleson, who had learned of the raid by the Indians, raised 32 men, halted and brought back to duty our men who had so precipitately fled in the morning. With these reinforcements our little army now numbered eightyfour men. General Edward Burleson, with Captain Jesse Billingley assisting, was now in command. Captain Billingley had already distinguished himself at the battle of San Jacinto. As recited by Wilbarger and others, the plan of battle was about as follows: General Edward Burleson had fully expected to find the Indians in a nearby thicket of

large extent, but contrary to all expectations, located them in a horseshoe bend, made by draws running into Brushy Creek, being well located for defense. At the upper or toe of the bend was high ground, while opposite or calks, was low ground. The white small army was divided into two parties; the first under General Burleson, who led his men on a considerable detour, so as to come upon the enemy at the toe of horseshoe bend. The second detachment was led by Captain Billingly coming from below and entering the horseshoe bend at its calks, thus striking the enemy front and rear simultaneously. This, in short, was the plan of attack, but unfortunately, after reconnoitering and skirmishing for some time, it was found that the wilv Comanches had chosen ground such that their enemy would have to cross an open flat some hundred vards wide in order to come to grips with the Indians—a dangerous procedure. Instead of charging the enemy, Captains Burleson and Rogers stationed their men in safe positions and waited for the enemy to make the attacks. Whenever an Indian showed himself a lead messenger was sent to meet him. In this manner the fight lasted till sundown. After dark came, the Indians retreated, leaving the Texans in possession of the battlefield. No knowledge was had as to the Comanche losses, but if cries and lamentations were any proof, it was great. General Burleson and Captain Rogers lost four men. Captain Jacob Burleson, young brother of General Edward Burleson, Edward Blakeney, John Wallace and Rev. James Gilleland, who lived ten days after receiving his wound. A noticeable incident of this battle was: A warrior succeeded in crawling out of the gully and lying flat on his back, unseen by the whites, and every time a Ranger exposed himself, would pick him off. Winslow Turner finally located him by the smoke of his gun, climbed a tree, fired at the sniper, who rose to his feet, swayed and fell headlong into the creek. Ed Blakeney was carried on a blanket stretcher 20 miles to his brother-in-law, Noah Smithwick, but died next day.

In the battle of Plum Creek General Burleson had 84 men, and it is estimated that there were 200 or 300 Indians. It was an important victory for the settlers. It took place 18th Feb., 1839. We have no roster of the white men

engaged in Battle of Plum Creek, but know that James Henderson was one of them, and that he was severly wounded but recovered.

About this time the Flint and Barker families came from Missouri and settled in Bastrop county, Texas. The Flint family was composed of four orphan children, John, Pete, Martha and Elizabeth. Martha was a black eved lass just past 16 years of age; she and James Henderson met and were mutually attracted; this attraction rapidly ripened into love. Sept. 12th. 1842, they were united in marriage. Not being of age, the older brother, John Flint, who was head of the family, advised that she wait till older, Impetuous vouth could not wait. One night when the Flint children were all in bed asleep. Martha arose and went to the window, giving a pre-arranged signal, the fearless young James Henderson placed a ladder at the window and carefully descending, opened his strong arms, Martha quickly and noiselessly appeared and was borne safely to earth. A marriage license had been secured and a minister of the Gospel had been spoken for, so to the preacher the young couple repaired and sealed their plighted vows at the altar, this Sept. 12th, 1842. Usually on this day an ornate disscription is given of the bride's trousseau; this discription is left to the imagination of the reader, but will name a few articles of the groom's dress. Jeans trousers, homespun and homemade, hickory shirt, store bought cloth but homemade shirt, a real fancy buckskin coat, edged all around with cut fringe and tassles at the button holes.

The James Hendersons lived for some years in Bastrop county then moved to Comal county, settled on a tract of his land adjoining what is now Landa's Park.

James Henderson and Bob Glass were partners in the cattle business. Their brand was (D H D connected). Their cattle had increased in number till the range was crowded. It was sell or look for more range, and as there was little or almost no market, more range they must have. In 1854 they rounded up their cattle and headed them for San Saba county, where good grazing was to be had for the taking. No fences, an open free range. In due time and with but few mishaps the Henderson-Glass cattle arrived at a place of fine grazing, and best of all, plenty of good stock water.

Why go further? In after years these natural water holes or reservoirs, five in number, were called Henderson Ponds. They are located on head draws of Wallace Creek, and previous to the division of the Tom Sloan ranch, were very important stock watering places on that big ranch.

At this time (1953) the Henderson Ponds are, one of them Dead Man's Hole, in the ranch owned by Eugene Nored, and the others in Frank Sloan's ranch. Eugene and Frank are great-grandsons of James Henderson, Thomas Sloan scraped out and enlarged the Dead Man's Hole and the Big Henderson Pond many years ago, Dead Man's Hole came by its name as follows: Tom Sloan and the Henderson boys had rounded up a bunch of cattle one rainy day and expected to hold them under herd at this pond overnight. John Choat, a teen-age boy, was cook and driving the grub wagon, and as night was fast approaching he was told to hurry to the pond in question, build a big fire and get supper ready for the cowboys when they got there. When he arrived at the waterhole it was pitch dark and still raining. Unharnessing and staking out his team to grass, he next turned his attention to making a fire, entering a nearby live oak thicket, he thought a few dry live oak leaves might be found to help kindle the fire. Down on hands and knees scratching and feeling about for dry kindling, he was greatly surprised and shocked when his hand came in contact with a dead man's face, and it was cold. John got back to the chuck wagon as fast as he could and remained there until the other boys and cattle came. They were cold and wet and had been looking forward to a hot supper and a big blazing fire to dry out their wet clothing, instead everything was dark and quiet, but John soon appeared, shaking and greatly frightened, but managed to tell of his gruesome discovery. By lighted matches they found not one dead man but two. The next day a shallow grave was dug and the bodies rolled into it. Since this time this waterhole has borne the name Dead Man's Hole. The largest of the five Henderson Ponds is in Frank Sloan's pasture and always called "Big Henderson Pond."

Traveling down the draws leading from Henderson Ponds a few miles James Henderson came to the white settlement of Wallace Creek. Living here were William Thax-

ton, Wiley Williams, Mathias Harkey and his sons, Billie and Riley, and a few others. William Thaxton of Wallace Creek, and R. W. McKee of Burnet county, Texas, as partners, dealt in land certificates, such as issued to the German Emigration Colonists by their leader, John Meusebach, in his contract with Republic of Texas to locate 5,000 first class colonists on the public lands of Texas. This land had been surveyed and set aside for the above named colonists, but the Indians were so bad that the colonists settled no land west or north of Llano or Mason counties, and but little there. In order to perfect title to their land they must live on it. The land certificates were in an open market, and anyone having the price, could buy. Thaxton and McKee did quite an extensive business in German Colonists' land certificates, mostly to families seeking homes.

February 25th, 1857, James Henderson entered into contract with Thaxton and McKee to purchase land on Wallace Creek represented by Certificate No. 136, issued by John Meusebach to heirs of L. Humard. Said Thaxton and McKee, agreeing to forfeit \$1500.00 in case they did not make good and sufficient deed to the same on or before December next. The consideration was \$120.00 cash, one large ox wagon valued at \$155.00, four likely four year old steers valued at \$15.00 per head, 4 choice milk cows with calves at \$16.00 each. Witnesses: John Hinton, Barlow Trowbridge. Signed before G. B. Cook, C. C. Sc.

Filed for record 6th Jan., 1858, 2 o'clock P. M., duly recorded 20th Jan., 1858, at 3 P. M. Reference: Transcribed Deed Record A No. 1 San Saba County, Page 340. This tract of land is now (1951) owned by C. C. (Buster) Pool, husband of granddaughter, Tom Valley Sloan-Pool, of James Henderson.

Leaving the cattle in his partner, Bob Glass', charge, James Henderson returned to Comal county for his family. No time was lost making ready for moving. Some time in 1855 or 1856 everything was ready—land sold to neighbor Landa, household goods, bull tongue plows, two wooden stock cast iron turning plows, loaded on the big oxwagon, and the Henderson family joyfully on their way to the new home at Wallace Creek.

At this time the Indians led the settlers of San Saba

county and surrounding counties a hard life. The Comanches and Apaches were the worst offenders, because they were more numerous and powerful than the others. To survive the white settler must be eternally on the alert.

The Henderson family lived on Wallace Creek some years, and prospered. Uncle Jimmie, himself, and other members of the family had visited the Rock Shoales (now Sloan) community many times; indeed, some of his children had attended Prof. Samuel Lee's school near the Johnson Rose home, A. J. Rose, a newcomer from Missouri, had bought a fine tract of San Saba Valley land in the Rock Shoales community, improved it, placing 70 acres of pecan bottom land in a high state of cultivation, built a stone dam impounding the waters of numerous big springs, erected a grist mill and a saw mill, powered by a huge overshot water wheel, driven by the impounded spring water; also by means of ditches and a dirt levee carried this spring water and irrigated his rich bottom land, producing huge crops, rain or shine, every year. Mr. Henderson had his eye on this property for some time and the more he thought about it, the more desirable it became. In 1868 he and A. J. Rose came to an agreement, in which Henderson, in the payment of \$10,000.00 gold of the realm to Rose, was to become its owner.

Mr. Henderson did not have sufficient cash to pay in full for the Rose property, but he had a large number of cattle, and they would bring money, provided a market could be found. According to best information, this market could be had at Silver City, New Mexico. The Hendersons rounded up 2.000 head of cattle, and with young Jim Henderson as trail boss. Dave Vance chuck wagon boss. Fent Brewster, two or three other white cowboys and several Mexican cowpunchers, hit the trail for Silver City, New Mexico. Their route was identical Chisholm Trail and Butterfield Route. Good luck was with them, for with but small loss of cattle and no Indians being encountered, in good time their destination was reached. Steve Maxcey, a large dealer in cattle, gave young Jim Henderson good prices for his cattle, and the trail drivers were soon on their way back to Texas.

Having such good success with the first herd of cat-

tle driven to New Mexico, James Henderson determined to send another one at once.

Allowing the boys a little time to get rested from their first trip, another herd, this time 1800 head, was rounded up. Same trail boss, same chuck wagon boss-in fact, the same crew throughout as drove the first herd. Since the passage of their first herd a severe drouth had come on. and stock water was extremely scarce along the trail. Sometimes it was 100 miles between waterings. Such was the case now: the cattle became crazed for the lack of water. it was a serious proposition, and an anxious moment for the young boss. The cattle could not be driven, they would mill round and round or else lie down and refuse to go forward. In the grub wagon were two barrels of drinking water: voung Henderson directed Dave Vance, chuck wagon driver, to drive to each prostrate animal and to pour a teacup full of water on it. Soon the thirst crazed cattle, smelling water, began licking the wet places and got on foot. Vance was directed to head the wagon up trail towards water, the herd was awake to the emergency, followed the wagon at first slowly, and later fast, in fact, running. Ot course, the wagon team could not keep this fast gait indefinitely, and the cattle were now in the lead, leaving the chuck wagon far behind. The cowboys made no effort to control or restrain them, but merely followed close by. Up the wind, cattle can smell water a long way. In this case the wind was favorable. Unerring instinct told the cattle that water was ahead. China Water Hole was some miles distant but at the rate of travel that distance was soon passed. The emergency was over, the cattle were safe and men could relax. A day lay-over to rest the herd after their hard drive was essential. At this time, more than one trail boss lost his entire herd or a big part of it—though he may have been much older and more experienced in trail driving than young Jim Henderson—for lack of water on the trail.

Jim Henderson reminded himself that he had not seen a certain cow for some time, but on account of the stress he had been in for some hours, had not had time for just one cow. Now that matters were at ease, he decided to make a close search for her, so, speaking to Fent Brewster

about the matter, they both rode carefully through the herd, searching diligently, the cow had actually disappeared. Charging the boys to hold herd where it was now grazing till his return, young Jim and Fent Brewster took the back trail in search of the missing cow. At last they came to the Pecos river and saw the missing cow on the opposite side of the river and had by her side a baby calf. Just as the boys rode into the river to cross over and get cow and calf, Indians were seen to take charge of the bovines, but nothing daunted the cowboys proceeded to ford the river: unfortunately quicksand bogged their mounts, and riders had to abandon them and get to dry land as best they could. Eventually the horses got free of the guicksand, but landed on the bank occupied by the Indians, Hard luck, They did not regain the lost cow, but lost their saddle horses and saddles, and had to walk back to the herd.

After some days and no serious trouble, the Henderson cattle arrived in Silver City, New Mexico, were tallied to their purchaser, Steve Maxcey, U. S. bonds accepted for payment, as they were less bulky and a great deal less weight.

Notwithstanding that the contract between Rose and Henderson stated that payment was to be made with gold and silver, Mr. Henderson assumed that U.S. bonds were good and that their market value was at a premium; that being so, he tendered them in part payment for the Rose property. Mr. Rose refused to accept them in payment, and called attention to the terms of the contract, which called for silver and gold in payment. NOTE: The Henderson familv was fully persuaded that Mr. Rose expected and hoped that trade would fail and that the forfeit money would be lost to them as had been the case in a former sale of this same property to an earlier buyer. At any rate the time limit was not yet up, and James Henderson was not one to take adversities lying down. Young Jim Henderson and one or two men of undoubted honesty, went to Austin, taking the U.S. Bonds for the purpose of exchanging them for gold and silver coins, which was readily accomplished. The question now arose: \$10,000.00 in gold and silver was heavy, too heavy to transport horseback, then how was it to be gotten to Mr. Rose? Again Jim Henderson's fertile

brain came to the rescue. He bought a span of mules and a new Peter Schutler wagon for the job.

James Henderson operated the mill properties that he had bought of Rose for some years, then it began to get into disrepair, and having no mechanic to make repairs, both saw and grist mills were abandoned, and rapidly went to ruin. Now, 1951, nothing remains of the old mills, excepting a half filled mill race, some stone pillars of the old foundation.

Mr. Henderson turned over the care of his cattle entirely to his sons and devoted all of his time to raising hogs and farming his good rich acres. At this time metal and wooden flumes were unheard of, so Mr. Henderson threw up dirt levees, and by this means carried water for irrigation to all parts of his farm. He was a man of quick decisions and quicker actions. When a levee broke or a ditch flooded instead of picking his way around to the damaged place on firm ground he would wade through the water and mud straight to the spot. Often his clothes were wet most of the day. Such procedure is calculated to do the strongest man no good. In March, 1883, Mr. Henderson contracted pneumonia, and in spite of the best of medical attention and good nursing death claimed his own March 30th, 1883. The body rests in the Henderson-Sloan private burying ground, Sloan community, San Saba county, Texas.

The wife: Martha Flint-Henderson, a native of St. Louis, Mo., having been born there Sept. 4th, 1826, and departed this life March 19th, 1904, and rests beside her husband. She came to Bastrop county, Texas, with her brothers, John and Pete Flint, and sister, Elizabeth Flint, between 1830 and 1840. No record tells when James Henderson and Martha Flint first met, but meet they did and were mutually attracted, which attraction rapidly blossomed into love. Sept. 12th, 1842, they pledged their troth and became husband and wife. To this union were born eight children, namely:

Malviny, born Jan. 17th, 1844, and died in infancy.

Emma Ellen Henderson, born in Bastrop county, Texas, Feb. 22nd, 1845, married Thomas A. Sloan, deceased Feb. 7th, 1935, buried in Henderson-Sloan family burying place. 3. Mary E. Henderson, born Feb. 19th, 1848, at par-

ental home, Bastrop county, Tex., deceased Sept. 26, 1857. 4. James Elias Henderson Jr., born Jan. 2nd, 1851, at home in Bastrop county, Tex., married Cora Loftin, deceased at San Antonio, Saint Rosa Hospital, Mar. 30th, 1929, buried in family graveyard on Burroak, Concho county, Tex. 5th. John Wadsworth Henderson, born parental home, Bastrop county, Tex., married Elizabeth Davis, deceased Mar. 11th. 1931, Ozona, Crockett county, Tex. 6th. Alice Rachel Henderson, born Sept. 30th, 1856, at parental home, Comal county, Tex., married Nathan Rice Sloan, deceased at W. T. Henderson's home in Tornillo, Tex., Sept. 5th, 1947, buried at Henderson-Sloan family burying ground. 7. Sam Houston Henderson, born Sept. 24th, 1860, Wallace Creek. San Saba county, Tex., married Martha Ella Owen, deceased at home, San Angelo, Tex. 8. William Thaxton Henderson, born May 7th, 1864, Wallace Creek, San Saba county, Tex., married Alice Stillwell 1st, Belle Black 2nd, Kate Marlev-Espy 3rd, Now, April, 1957, lives at Tornillo, Tex.

GEORGE P. ARMENTROUT

A native son of Old Virginia, born in 1838. He was a carpenter by trade, and a good one, too. He was noted for his looms, spinning wheels, chairs, bedsteads, kitchen safes or cabinets—in fact, he made all kinds of furniture. During the pioneer days of San Saba county, from native woods he made many looms and spinning wheels for our grandmothers. Sloan Sisters have a well preserved kitchen cabinet, made by George Armentrout of chittim wood (the same wood that the Ark of the Covenant was constructed of) and is in use. It was made about 1867 or 1868 for the late Mrs. T. A. (Emma) Sloan.

George Armentrout did not leave Virginia bound directly for Texas, but he made the trip in leisurely fashion—stopping along enroute and at intervals and building things for the people. After leaving Arkansas he came direct to Wallace Creek, San Saba county, Texas, bought land and settled down permanently. On May 21, 1857, he and Mary A. Harkey were united in marriage. The marriage ceremony was solemnized at the home of her brother, Israel Harkey, and it was performed by Justice Daniel Harkey. The old George Armentrout home is about one mile

east of the mouth of Wallace Creek. Polly Ann Harkey was born in North Carolina, came to Little Rock, Arkansas, with her parents, Mathias and Caroline Harkey, and brothers, Billie Harkey, Riley Harkey, Israel and Levi Harkey, and in ox wagons landed on Wallace Creek, San Saba county, Texas, 1855. Riley and Israel Harkey had been to Texas the year before and made locations for the family on lower Wallace Creek.

George and Polly Ann Armentrout had born to them eight children, namely:

- (1) John Armentrout, who married Belle Sharp. Their children were: Mollie Armentrout, Mattie Armentrout, Lewis Armentrout, Katie Lee Armentrout.
- (2) Green William Armentrout, who married Bettie Frost. Their children: Nettie Armentrout, Mary Armentrout and step-daughter, Etta Frost.
- (3) Amos Abraham Armentrout, who married Ella Meredith. Their children: William Armentrout, Annie Armentrout, Arlie Armentrout, Nanielee Armentrout, Viola Armentrout.
- (4) George Riley Armentrout, who married Jesse Rogers. Their children: Frank Armentrout, Allen Armentrout, Marion Armentrout, Allie Armentrout, Lilie Armentrout, Cecil Armentrout, Beulah Armentrout, Winnie Armentrout, Cora Armentrout, Grace Armentrout, George Armentrout.
- (5) Levi Hudson Armentrout, married Fronia Meredith. Their children: Raymond Armentrout, Pearl Armentrout, Roy Armentrout.
- (6) Mollie Armentrout, who married Jim McNatt. Their children: One child born to them and mother died giving birth to it.
- (7) Robert O. Armentrout, who married Hattie Mc-Cloud. Children: Colon Armentrout, Virgie Armentrout. Charlie B. Armentrout.
- (8) Ada Lee Armentrout, who married Kage Dismuke. Their children: Mary Dismuke, Charley Dismuke, Marie Dismuke, Thomas Dismuke, W. R. Dismuke, Vinson Dismuke, Vivian Dismuke, T. Kage Dismuke, Jr.

LORANZO ARMENTROUT

He was born in Virginia in 1854; also his parents were native Virginians. He was a carpenter by trade, but also did farming in the early days of San Saba county when there was not much call for carpenter's work. He and his brother, George Armentrout, came to Wallace Creek, San Saba county, Texas, from Arkansas in the early 1850's.

Wife, ELIZABETH ROBBINS ARMENTROUT. She and Loranzo Armentrout were united in marriage May 5, 1860. Born in 1842, she was the daughter of Thos. and Lelia Robbins.

Children of Loranzo and Lelia Robbins Armentrout were five in number, and as follows: Robert B. Armentrout, Rufus Armentrout, James T. Armentrout, David Armentrout, Columbus Armentrout and Frank Armentrout; all native Texans.

Loranzo Armentrout was a builder of spinning wheels and cloth looms for the pioneer women of San Saba and other counties. The John Dalton family possessed one of his spinning wheels, built specially for Mrs. Dalton before 1868, while the Dalton family lived on Wallace Creek.

JOHN SHIELDS first saw the light of day in Illinois in 1828. His parents moved to the State of Arkansas while he was a youth, in fact, only a child. Here he met, loved and married Matilda Lyon Rutherford, a native of Tennessee, who was born February 20, 1826. In June the John Shields family moved to Wilson county, Texas, and in 1867 to Williamson county, Texas. Yet it seems that John Shields was not permanently located, for in the summer of 1876 he settled on Wallace Creek, San Saba county. This was Centennial year of our Independence.

John Shields was, as ages go at the present time, a young man when death overtook him, being only sixty-four years of age. It was February 14, 1892, that he died and was buried in Wallace Creek Cemetery. The wife, Matilda Rutherford-Shields, survived her husband eight years, and June the 19, 1900, died and was buried by the side of her husband in Wallace Creek Cemetery.

Born to John and Matilda Shields were seven children, namely, Mary Sarah, died in infancy; Emily Jane Shields,

who married John H. Girvin, whose biography is recorded elsewhere in this volume; Magnolia Shields, who married John Mullins, whose biography is recorded elsewhere in this volume; Elnora Shields, who married Gabriel Choat, Jr., whose biography is of record in this book; Eula Shields died at Wallace Creek in 1880; Clara Lou Shields, who married Henry Ketchum, a merchant at San Saba and school teacher of New Mexico and U. S. Customs officer at El Paso, Texas; Ola Shields, who married Berry Ketchum (no relation of Henry Ketchum), a prominent ranchman of west central Texas. Mary, Emily and Magnolia were born in Arkansas. Magnolia and John Mullins, Elnora and Gabe Choat, Clara Lou and Henry Ketchum, Ola and Berry Ketchum were all married at the John and Matilda Shields home on Wallace Creek.

THEO GARVIN AND MARY THAXTON-GARVIN

They came to San Saba county from Travis county, Texas, about 1875 and settled on Wallace Creek. It is thought that Theo Garvin was born in Travis county, through his father was a native of Maryland and his mother hailed from Virginia. Mary Thaxton, daughter of pioneer, William Thaxton, was a native of Travis county, Texas, having been born there March 18, 1858.

William Thaxton, a native of Tennessee, had moved to Missouri and on to San Saba county, Texas, in the early 1850's, settling on Wallace Creek. He was a land surveyor and had partnership with one McKee of Burnet. Thaxton and McKee handled German Colonists Land Script. In the 1840's Republic of Texas, in order to secure emigrants of first class order, made contract with certain German noblemen that on condition 5,000 first class emigrants were settled in Texas that Texas would grant each colonist 320 acres of land, making perfect title when colonist had made certain improvement and lived on his allotment three years. Previous to this Texas issued a paper to said colonist specifying his allotment; this paper was called Land Script. On account of "Indians being too bad" the colonists had never settled on any of the allotted lands within a time limit in San Saba county, so all German Colonists land was forfeit and on the market for sale to whomever

would fulfill its contract. Thaxton and McKee made it their business to locate this land and find a buyer for it. The fine black valley land of Wallace Creek was embraced by the German Colonists grant. Theo Garvin purchased a tract of the said land and settled his family upon it.

Theo and Mary Garvin had born to them three children, namely:

- (1) Barsha Garvin, born 1875.
- (2) Oscar Garvin, born in 1877.
- (3) Ollie Garvin.

Theo and Mary Garvin have passed on; she deceased Sept. 22, 1882, the date of his death is not at hand. Oscar Garvin is a prosperous farmer living a few miles east of San Saba.

JOHN HICKS GIRVIN was born in or near Hendersonville, North Carolina, August 11, 1850, came to Williamson county, Texas, in 1869, and settled near Bagdad, later called Leander, in 1869. The wife, Emily Jane Shields, was born near Ft. Smith. Arkansas. December 21, 1853. Her father. John Shields and family, moved from Arkansas to Wilson county, Texas, in 1855 or 1856, and lived here a number of years, and about 1870 moved to Williamson county, Texas, and settled a few miles out of Georgetown. It was here that John Hicks Girvin and Emily Jane Shields first met, being mutually attracted, they fell in love and were united in marriage December 31, 1872, and here their first child, Lena, afterwards Mrs. U. M. Sanderson, was born April 2, 1875. Centennial year, the year of our independence one hundred years before, the John Shields and John Girvin families moved to San Saba county, Texas, landing on Wallace Creek in the summer of 1876. Here a son was born March 8, 1877. This was Roy Girvin. He has ranching interests in Pecos county, Texas, near the railroad station, Girvin, but he and family have their home at Mertzon, Tex.

The John Girvins left Wallace Creek in 1879 and moved to Coleman county, Texas, and he followed his regular calling, farming, till 1903, when he quit farming and engaged in the ranching business in Pecos county, Texas. Here he

remained for nine years, then in 1912 he swapped his ranch property for business property in San Angelo, Texas, and here he and wife lived to the end of their lives. His life ended May 28, 1928, and the wife survived till December 30, 1941, being 88 years old. Both rest in Fairmount Cemetery, San Angelo, Texas.

Born to John Hicks Girvin and Emily Jane Shields-Girvin were nine children, two of which have been mentioned in this article, the other seven were born in Coleman county, Texas, namely: Luke and Lillie Girvin, twins, born August 23, 1880. Lillie married V. B. Clark, is widowed and lives in San Angelo, Texas. Luke owns a livestock farm near Colorado City, Texas. Eula Girvin, now Mrs. W. W. Miser, lives on a ranch west of Amarillo, Texas. Stella Girvin, now Mrs. Hugh H. Jones, lives in Vernon, Texas. Johnie Girvin, a bachelor, lives in San Angelo, Texas. Everett Girvin and wife live in Odessa, Texas. All nine children are living and are located in Texas at this writing, November, 1945.

The elder Girvins made a profession of religion and united with the Baptist Church in Coleman county in 1890.

WILLIAM TIPPEN: Born in North Carolina February 14, 1808, and married Mary M. Trout, who was born January 10, 1809, and also a native of the Tar Heel state. They moved to Georgia at an early date, he engaging in farming and livestock raising. Here their children were born and reared to early manhood and womanhood. The Civil War started in 1861, and Georgia was situated geographically just right to have plenty of trouble. After much hard fighting, General Sherman occupied Georgia's Capitol, Atlanta. In 1864 he burned and almost completely destroyed that beautiful city, and in November, 1864, with 65,000 men, almost unopposed, started on his celebrated march to the sea. His route was marked by fire and destruction. Georgia's people had it brought home to them in a very forcible way what General Sherman said, "War is Hell."

In 1869 William Tippen and wife, in company with their son, John W. Tippen, Sr., and his family, left Georgia bound for that great country, that land of promise, Texas. In November of that same year they landed at Wallace

Creek in San Saba county, Texas, none the worse for their long wearisome journey.

Stricken with a bad spell of sickness, Mary Trout-Tippen passed to her reward February 14, 1884, and was laid to rest in Wallace Creek Cemetery.

Either from accident or disease William Tippen became very stooped, and bore the nick-name of "Humpy Tippen." He specialized in the care of horses, and was known far and wide as the man who castrated horses, and them standing.

As far as can be escertained, John W. Tippen, Sr., was the only child of William and Mary Trout-Tippen.

William Tippen survived his wife about eleven years, dying January 10, 1895, and rests beside his wife in Wallace Creek Cemetery.

JOHN M. TIPPEN: Was born February 3, 1833, a native of Georgia, where with his father, William Tippen, he was engaged in farming and livestock raising. At the age of twenty-three years on April 17, 1856, he married Miss Mary E. Robertson, also a native of Georgia.

For some time the "South" and the "North" had had ill feelings against each other about slavery and other things. In 1861 this ill feeling had grown into hatred, and

at last into open war.

John Tippen responded to his country's call, and enlisted as a private in the Confederate Army. During the Civil War the people of Georgia had hard times. Many hard fought battles came off in her fair land, and towards the latter part of this unhappy struggle, the Yankee soldiers, a good part of the time, almost unopposed, overran the country, pillaging and burning, as witness General Sherman's burning Atlanta and his "Grand march to the sea" in the fall of 1864. The Civil War was ended, not so the struggle for existence. It was great in Georgia. Finally in 1869 the Tippen families, William and son, John, decided to try their fortunes in the Lone Star State. Many were the tales told by travelers of that good country. Its abundance of all kinds of game, salubrious climate, no end of good land to be had for a song, and sing the song yourself.

In November, 1869, they landed in Texas, and shortly

afterward settled on Wallace Creek, San Saba county. The record shows that John M. Tippen filed homestead claim on 160 acres of vacant land February 27, 1875, located on Wallace Creek. Witnesses: J. G. Underwood, T. B. Russell, signed before W. R. Rogan, Deputy Clerk under James F. Brown. After proving his three year residence on said pre-emption John M. Tippen applied for title to same. His application was made September 4, 1882, and witnesses were: N. Ketchum, A. J. Esterle, signed before J. N. Gauney, County Clerk, San Saba county, Texas. Described as Preemption Survey No. 223, 160 acres, 9 miles S. 42 W. from San Saba. This land was surveyed for Mr. Tippen by M. H. Wadsworth and chain carriers were G. Choat and W. Tippen on March 27, 1875.

The wife, Mrs. Mary E. Robertson-Tippen, born January 10, 1809, died at home on Wallace Creek in 1884 and was buried in Wallace Creek Cemetery. Her husband survived her till December 20, 1895, and then slept with his fathers in Wallace Creek Cemetery.

Children of John M. and Mrs. Robertson-Tippen: Sarah Jane Tippen, born in Georgia in 1857, and married Richard Godfrey, native of same state, in 1881. (Further on in this volume will be found more about Richard Godfrey and Sarah Jane Tippen-Godfrey). William R. Tippen, born in Georgia in 1860. In 1883 William Tippen and a neighbor boy were racing their bareback ponies on a certain stretch of road near Wallace Creek, leaning far over on their ponies' wethers, William expected to go on one side of an elm tree near the road, and the horse chose the opposite side, resulting in rider's head striking the tree and fracturing skull, and death following, George W. Tippen, born in Georgia, 1862. John W. Tippen, Jr., born in Georgia, 1865. James H. Tippen, born on Wallace Creek, 1870. He married Miss Mattie Kinkaid, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Kinkaid, living a short time on Wallace Creek, then moved to Ebony, Mills county, Texas, and there died in 1948.

GABRIEL CHOAT, SR.: Was born in Tennessee August 14, 1826, and died at Pontotoc, Mason county, Texas, July 14, 1923. He and Mary Rainbolt were married at George-

town, Texas, in 1848. In an early day Gabe and Mary Choat settled in Burnet county, Texas, and from there, in 1869, moved to Wallace Creek, San Saba county, Texas. J. W. Dalton says that his father, John Dalton and family, left Wallace Creek in 1869, moving from the Tom Thaxton place, and, that just as the Daltons moved out the Gabe Choats moved in.

Born to Gabriel and Mary Rainbolt-Choat were eight children, seven sons and one daughter, namely: David Choat. In the 1890's he went to Alaska, seeking gold, came back home, having had an unsatisfactory trip, after some time determined to go back and try his luck for the second time. During his second venture he was lost in the vast region of snows and ice and never heard of again. John Choat from boyhood up worked on ranches as a cowboy. While still in his teens at one time he was working for Tom Sloan and the Henderson boys, who were gathering their straved cattle, as cook and driver of the grub wagon. At this particular time it was raining, their destination was one of the Henderson Ponds, which on account of the weather and many unforeseen circumstances, it was evident that men and cattle could not reach their desired destination before dusk. John Choat was directed to proceed without delay, to drive on to the Pond and prepare supper for the cowboys. Arriving at the appointed place, he unharnessed the team and hobbled it out to grass. As everything was soaking wet he repaired to a nearby live oak thicket, expecting to find a few dry leaves and sticks for kindling to start his supper fire. It was very cloudy and dark. Scratching around for kindling, John was shocked into a panic when he laid his hands upon a dead human body. When the cowboys arrived with the herd of cattle. John quickly apprised them of his experience. An investigation disclosed not one body but three. The next day tools were secured and the bodies buried near the spot where they had been found. It was disclosed later that a vigilance committee of Llano county had pursued and overtaken three cattle thieves and dealt out to them summary justice. From this time on this particular Henderson Pond (there are some five or six of them) has borne the name. "Dead Man's Hole." It is situated near the west side of the

San Saba-Pontotoc road, about 14 miles south of San Saba city, and located in Eugene Nored's ranch, a subdivision of the T. A. Sloan ranch previous to 1909. Dead Man's Hole was an important watering place for livestock when the J. T. Ranch was intact. Mr. Sloan had it dug deeper and kept it cleaned out, so that it held a lot more water than before the improvement.

Austin was the third child porn to Gabe and Mary Choat. He, as a family man, lived on Wallace Creek at an early date and is so treated at another place in this volume. Adeline Choat married James Sharp, a Scotch stone cutter. Gabe Choat, Jr., Jasper Choat, Dan Choat and last, Ephriam.

Gabriel Choat came to Texas in 1845, and joined Captain Millet's Texas Mounted Volunteers, and served three years, most of the time on the Rio Grande river. He fought as a private in the Confederate Army during the late Civil War. He had many thrilling adventures with the Indians in Texas. He was a member of the Church of Christ. His was a long lived family, he living to be ninety-seven, and a sister, Mrs. Adeline Choat-Draper, died in Llano county at George W. Draper's (her son) home in 1944 at the age of 105 years. Mr. Draper says further that, about the beginning of the Civil War, Gabe Choat and his sister, Mrs. Clarintha Choat-Draper, went to Arkansas to gain possession of a Negro slave willed to him by his grandmother, but for some reason not known now, failed to receive his inheritance.

AUSTIN CHOAT: Born in Burnet county, Texas, August 8, 1856. He was the third child in a large family of children of Gabriel and Mary Rainbolt-Choat, old timers of Wallace Creek. Austin Choat was an energetic livestock man and farmed some. In 1901 San Saba county had one of the severest drouths of its history. Many cattlemen moved their herds out of the county to grass. That year the divide country between the San Saba and Llano rivers, in the Menard and Junction City country, was favored by good rains, and grass there was fine. In May, 1901, Thos. Sloan, a big ranchman of San Saba county, had gone to Menard hunting for grass, and found it on Gentry Creek and the Big Sa-

line, but was unable to lease any of it, so bought from Judge G. Tarlton of Hillsboro, Texas, several thousand acres, hurried home and soon had about 1200 head of his drouth-stricken cattle rounded up to send to the new ranch. His son, Jym A. Sloan, drove this herd through, going up the San Saba river on account of the lack of stock water any other route. No rain fell in the San Saba ranch, and matters rapidly grew worse, so Mr. Sloan had rounded up another bunch of the J T cattle of five hundred or more head, and appointed his son-in-law. John T. Baker, as trail boss, and sent them to the Kimble county ranch. On this drive Austin Choat was cook and grub wagon boss. Mr. Sloan said of Austin Choat that he remembered cattle better than any man that he had ever known. This is very high praise when it is taken into consideration that one of the fundamental considerations of a real cow man is to remember individually his cattle.

Austin Choat and Mary Simmons of Tarrant county, Texas, were married September 6, 1885, the Rev. William Speegle, Cumberland Presbyterian minister, performing the marriage ceremony. The wife was born February 27, 1867, and in 1945 was living in Ada, Oklahoma.

Their children were eleven in number and as follows:
Oscar Choat, Nora Choat, died in infancy, Ellen Choat,
Alice Choat, now Mrs. Alice House and living at Hall, Texas; Joe Choat, Tuney Choat, Walter Choat, Olias Choat,
deceased; Earl Choat, Irvin Choat, Burley Choat, Noel
Choat, Wallace Choat, so called for Wallace Creek.

STEPHEN A. VAUGHN AND AMELIA NESBIT-VAUGHN

Stephen A. Vaughn, born Dec. 13, 1804, at Estelle, Ky., was a Minister of the Gospel of the Methodist faith, and a nephew of President Andrew Jackson. He was not a soldier in the Civil War, nevertheless he received a shrapnel wound during that war, which laid open his temple. Surgery fixed this up, but he always carried a deep scar in the temple.

For many years Bro. Vaughn preached at Wallace Creek and Rock Shoales. He was a man of large physique andd beetling brows, which gave him a rather fierce appearance, though, in truth, he was mild mannered and of

a kind disposition. He wore no beard, though, at this time, full beards or mustaches were almost universally worn by the American man. He never failed an appointment and his wife always accompanied him.

Stephen Vaughn served on a jury of inquest under Coroner Henry Taylor Sept. 15, 1874, on the dead body of a Mexican found at the Dead Man's Hole, one of the Henderson Ponds now located in Eugene Nored's paseure.

Wife: Amelia Nesbit-Vaughn, was aunt to Mrs. Mahala Ellis, wife of Henry Ellis, an old timer of Wallace Creek, but at an early date moved to Rock Shoales (now Sloan). Mrs. Vaughn's uncle, Stephen Hopkins of Rhode Island, was a signer of the Declaration of Independence.

Stephen Vaughn and wife came to Bastrop county, Texas, in 1857 or 1858, and to Wallace Creek, San Saba county, about 1860 or a little later, where they bought a small tract of land and built their home and here lived out his allotted days. After Mr. Vaughn's death "Aunt Vaughn" went to live with her niece, Mrs. Henry Ellis, at Rock Shoales until her death in 1931.

Stephen A Vaughn died Oct. 11, 1889. He and his wife rest in the Ellis family graveyard, located on a high point of land overlooking the San Saba river and one-half mile north of old Henry Ellis homestead home. The Vaughns had no children.

JOHN CALVIN DARNELL: Was a native of Mississippi, having been born there in 1855. By occupation he was a farmer stockman. The first mention we have of John C. Darnell being on Wallace Creek was in 1872, when he served as a Minute Man or Ranger under Sergeant (Captain) W. H. Ledbetter. Also the record shows that he drew pay for services in Captain Ledbetter's Company April 5-16, 1873, May 1-11, 1873, and June 1-11, 1873. (These dates from U. S. Census for 1880, as per Mrs. Alice Gray-Upchurch). John Darnell served as one of a Coroner's Jury of Inquest under Coroner Henry (General) Taylor of San Saba county, Texas, March 13, 1874, upon the body of James T. Stephens, deceased, at San Saba Town.

John Darnell was highly respected by everyone as an honest, upright citizen. He passed to his reward at home

on Wallace Creek in 1912, rests in Wallace Creek Cemetery.

Wife: Masie Black-Darnell, was sister of Ike Black, who left San Saba county about 1898 or 1899, and went to the State of Washington to live.

"Grandma" Hardie lived with the John and Masie Dar-

nell family.

Children: John Darnell, Jr., James Darnell, Della Darnell, Ola Darnell, Lina Darnell, married Eddie (Dutch) Dunbar, and they moved to Kimble county, Texas; Dunbar Darnell, Pearl Darnell, Mert Darnell.

JOHN W. MULLINS: Was born September 27, 1851, and departed this life November 8, 1925. He was buried in Wallace Creek Cemetery. John Mullins was a native of Arkansas, coming to Texas from Arkansas with the Bige Duncan family in the 1860's. Bige Duncan was his step-father. He was a Second Corporal in Captain W. H. Ledbetter's Company of Minute Men of Wallace Creek. Some time in 1872 he substituted for C. Dyneson, and October and November he substituted for William Brown in Captain Ledbetter's Company of Rangers, or as they were sometimes called, Minute Men. The record shows that John Mullins received pay as a Ranger in Captain Ledbetter's Company September 13, 1872.

MAGNOLIA SHIELDS-MULLINS, the wife, was also a native of Arkansas, having been born there in 1856, and deceased July, 1933, and buried in Wallace Creek Cemetery.

In the summer of 1876 the John Shields family of Williamson county, Texas, settled on Wallace Creek, San Saba county, Texas. Magnolia was their third child; she and the dashing young John Mullins met, and mutual interest in each other ripened into love, and they were married.

To this union were born seven children: Pink Mullins, Osborne Mullins, Van Mullins, Mary Mullins, Matilda Mullins, Moline Mullins, Muriel Mullins, who married Creed Ellis. The Mullins family were members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

BART DANIELS: A native of Missouri, was born in 1846, his parents were native to Kentucky. Bart Daniels, in ad-

dition to farming, chose the occupation of house moving. It is said of him that when he was preparing to move a house, and his lifting jacks got out of order or worked too slow that he crawled under the house on all fours, "humped" himself, thus raising the building so the blocks could be placed under it and eventually the skids or rollers.

PRUDENCE DANIELS, the wife, was a native of Illinois, her father was born in Pennsylvania, and her mother was a native of New Jersey.

Bart and Prudence Daniels lived on Wallace Creek in 1880, and they reported that year to the United States Census Taker one child, Lena, seven years old.

HENRY C. DOVE AND NAN BLACK-DOVE

Henry C. Dove, born November 13, 1845, near Randolf, Alabama, and deceased 1922, buried in Wallace Creek Cemetery, San Saba county, Texas.

In 1862 he enlisted at Randolf, Alabama, for service in the Confederate Army; he was 5th Sergeant in Company B., 4th Miss. Regiment, Forrests' Division, William Smith 1st Captain, — Mueler 1st Colonel. "Was never changed, wounded, captured or promoted." He said, "I have stood in the rain and storms on guard and had to lie on the ground all night in water and when I turned over could hear it squish under me." He was a member of the Baptist Church.

Nan Black-Dove came to Texas from Randolf, Alabama, with her husband to Texas and settled on Wallace Creek about 1870. We have no record of her birthday, but she deceased Dec. 15, 1894, and buried at Wallace Creek Cemetery.

To Henry C. Dove and Nan Black-Dove were born 12 children, namely:

- (1) Lois Dove,
- (2) Doll Dove,
- (3) Maggie Dove,
- (4) Mattie Dove,
- (5) Annie Dove,
- (6) Mary Dove,

- (7) Cora Dove,
- (8) Tom Dove,
- (9) George Dove,
- (10) William Dove,
- (11) Florence Dove,
- (12) Katie Dove.

October 25, 1899, Henry Dove took to wife Ernestine Dunbar and born to them two children.

Ernestine Dunbar-Dove, born 1861, deceased 1927, and buried in Dunbar family cemetery.

A story was in circulation at one time that: Henry Dove's children, girls predominating; and Tom Hawkins' children, boys predominating; that Henry Dove was raising girls for Tom Hawkins' boys.

ISAAC RUSSELL BLACK AND JAN DOVE AND CHARLOTTE ELIZABETH THORNTON

Isaac (Ike) Russell Black was born in Mariwether county, Georgia, December 22, 1843, and deceased — — Everett, Washington, and buried at Bayview Cemetery. He was of Irish ancestry, his paternal grandfather hailing from the "Emerald Isle."

In young manhood Ike Black moved to Randolf county, Alabama, and here it was that he met Jan Dove, wooed and won her for wife. Jan Black had a brother, Henry Dove, and Ike Black had a sister, Nan Black, whom Henry Dove married; so, in a way of speaking, Ike Black and Henry Dove swapped sisters—Ike Black marrying Jan Dove and Henry Dove marrying Nan Black.

Ike Black and Jan Dove-Black had born to them children as follows:

- (1) Alice "Muggy" Black, who was born and reared in San Saba county, Texas, married Jim Doran, and moved to State of Washington at the same time that her parents did, about 1901.
 - (2) Joseph Black.
 - (3) Mary Black.

The Seaborn Thornton family, originally of Mari-

wether county, Georgia, in 1869 came to Titus county, Texas, and between 1870 and 1877 moved to Wallace Creek (strickly speaking, they moved to Flat Branch, near Wallace Creek) San Saba county, Texas, and Ike Black came with them or about the same time as they did.

Sometime after the death of Jan Dove-Black, Ike Black took to wife Charlotte Elizabeth Thornton, and to this

union were born the following children:

- (1) Ella Black.
- (2) Tillie May Black, deceased at two years of age.
- (3) Mattie Sue Black, deceased Jan. 17, 1919.
- (4) James Isaac Black.
- (5) Russell Hollman Black, deceased Oct. 3, 1931.
- (6) Elizabeth Polkie Black, deceased at nine months of age.
 - (7) Sula Black.
 - (8) Grace Black.
- (9) Irwin Seaborn Black became a school teacher at 19 years of age. Has since become Superintendent of three different schools in Washington, has been holding that position at Kennewick, Washington, for 18 years. Because of all the atomic plants in Hendford and Richland, Washington, the high school pupils are transferred by bus to Kennewick, and because of the great need for school facilities a two million dollar high school is under construction to be named for the Superintendent, and called "Irwin Seaborn Black High School."

Ike Black's hobbies were hunting and fishing, the first of which he was very proficient. The first year that he lived in San Saba county he killed 27 wild turkeys and many deer. He would kill and dress a deer, put a rope around its neck and draw it up into a tree out of reach of the dogs, then invite his neighbors to come get venison gratis, which they were not slow in doing—this went on till the meat was all gone.

Ike Black freighted between San Saba and Goldthwaite and Lometa for a number of years; his teams consisted of horses and mules, often times a horse and a mule made a span. His main horse feed was corn. At that time

San Saba had no railroad, but the Santa Fe R. R. passed through Lometa and Goldthwaite.

The Ike Black family moved to the State of Washington in 1900.

During the flu epidemic of 1919, Mattie Sue Black-Heathman, her husband and a daughter died within 36 hours of each other in Portland, Oregon. The remains were shipped to Skagit, Washington, and buried in one large grave in Bay View Cemetery.

All surviving children of the Ike Black family are mar-

ried and occupied in various types of business.

Through the courtesy of Mrs. C. M. Schmidt of Everett, Wash., I am indebted for the data upon which this sketch is built.

SEABORN THORNTON: Was born in Mariwether county, Georgia, in 1837. From Georgia Seaborn Thornton moved to Randolf county, Alabama, and here it was that he and Mary Elizabeth Wicker, native of Alabama, were married in 1855.

Many families were moving to that far-famed country of Texas, and 1869 found the Seaborn Thorntons in Titus county, Texas. In 1877 he bought a tract of that good Wallace Creek valley land, situated on Flat Branch, a small tributary of the San Saba river, but so near Wallace Creek that it was included in that district. After settling on Flat Branch the Seaborn Thorntons farmed and raised cattle for fifteen years, then, about 1892, they-what remained of them-moved to San Saba. After the Flat Branch property was sold by the Thorntons it changed ownership rather often. Some time after the World War No. 1 Harrison Burke from Bosque county, Texas, purchased the Pete C. Sloan ranch, in the Sloan community, and moved to it. As this ranch had but scant tillable land on it, Mr. Burke secured the Thornton old place, which had a number of acres of good black land. Burke enclosed it with good fences, drilled wells, erected windmills, built good dwelling houses and barns, and greatly increased the acreage in cultivation. This farm being only a few miles from his ranch, the abundant feed crops produced were readily available there. Mr. Burke named his farm "The Poor Farm." A few years

later Burke sold out ranch and farm and moved to Corsicana, Texas. The farm is now (1949) owned by Preston Patton.

The eleven children born to Seaborn and Mary Elizabeth Wicker-Thornton are: Mary Ann Thornton, who married Matt Brown; Charlotte Elizabeth Thornton, who married Ike Black; Misourie Bell, who died at the age of ten years; William J., who married Willie Weiher; Seaborn Fletcher, who married Mary Barnett, and after her death married Mrs. Jennie Harkey-Funderburk; Edgar Thornton, who married Elizabeth Taylor and after her death married Mrs. Julia Lee; Jess Lee Thornton died when six years old; Sula Thornton, who married Joshua Welch; Rufus Thornton, who married Dora Harkey; Crate Thornton, who married Cora Lewis, and after her death married Viola Lackey; Bascom Thornton, who married Lilie Alexander.

Seaborn Thornton, at an early age, joined the Methodist Protestant Church, and his wife was also a member of that church. He fought in the Civil War between the U.S.A. and the C.S.A., under General Robert E. Lee.

At a ripe old age these good people, Seaborn and Mary Elizabeth Thornton, passed to their reward, and were laid to rest in the City Cemetery at San Saba. Texas.

In the spring of 1899 some thirteen wagons, mostly from the Wallace Creek Valley, loaded with household goods, etc., and families, started on the long drive for New Mexico and Arizona. They were to noon at the Duncan Ford on the San Saba river, about four miles west of San Saba, and two other wagons from Harkevville-Algerita area were to join them there. Herewith follows the names composing the exodus: John Mullins and family in three wagons; Gabe Choat, Jr., and family in two wagons; Mrs. Henry Ketchum and family in two wagons; her husband. Henry Ketchum, was in New Mexico teaching school, and she and children were to join him there: Tris Hazleton and family in one wagon; John Graham and family in three wagons; Bascom Thornton and family in two Wagons; Guy Martin and Eph Choat had no wagon of their own, but drove wagons for others, they were single men and went along for the adventure, driving teams and otherwise helping for their bed and board.

WILLIAM JEFFERSON THORNTON: Born in Georgia in 1862, came to Titus county, Texas, with his parents, Seaborn and Mary Thornton, in 1869, and from there to Wallace Creek, San Saba county, in 1877, or more correctly speaking, Flat Branch, a small tributary of the San Saba river, but it is in the Wallace Creek valley, and in places approaches within one-half mile of that creek.

W. J. Thornton married his cousin, Miss Willie Wicker, in Ellis county, Texas, and they made their home on a tract of land on Wallace Creek that he had previously bought from Miss Sallie Thaxton. Later on he sold this place and moved to Ellis county. Still not entirely satisfied, he bought land near Miles Station in Runnels county, Texas, where he and wife lived out their allotted time. William and Willie Thornton were members of the Protestant Methodist Church, and very devout members, too. Their remains are at rest in Miles Cemetery.

Born to W. J. and Willie Thornton were three children, namely: Lonnie Thornton, Mary Thornton and Minnie Thornton.

MATT BROWN: Was born in Mississippi in 1852, and came to Titus county, Texas, during the year of 1872. Here he met Mary Ann Thornton, daughter of Seaborn and Mary Elizabeth Wicker-Thornton, and finding that each others company was so pleasing and altogether congenial, that mutual love rapidly blossomed, and they pledged their troth, and the Rev. Emmett Carroll was chosen to say the words that would make them one.

Mary Ann Thornton-Brown was born in Randolf county, Georgia, in 1857, and with her parents, came to Titus county, Texas, in 1869. Thus being twelve years of age when taking up residence in the Lone Star State. They were members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. By occupation Matt Brown was a farmer, and, as was the custom, he owned a small bunch of cattle from which the family procured their supply of milk and butter. When past the age of sixty years Matt Brown's hand became infected, and later cancer developed. A surgeon amputated the hand at wrist, wound almost healed then got worse again and

another operation was had. This time half way between wrist and elbow—this proved effective.

Children born to Matt and Mary Ann Brown: Walter Brown, who married Eula Rimes; Dora Brown, who married Mose Welch; Lulu Brown, who married Marvin Turley, both deceased; Willie Brown, who married Jenobia ——; Miles Brown, who married Amy Hendrix; Sandy Brown, who married Willie Miller; Almas Brown, who married Abbie Crawford; Vada Brown, who married Ernest Grumbles, both are deceased.

Matt Brown departed this life in 1928, and rests in Wallace Creek Cemetery. The wife survived her husband till 1954, living in Pontotoc with her son, Sandy Brown.

RICHARD (DICK) GODFREY never took up residence on Wallace Creek, but married a daughter of a prominent family, the John Tippens, in that community, and his family made frequent and extended visits to her parents' home. So it seems, considering the close connection and association of the Dick Godfrey family had with Wallace Creek, a brief sketch of them and their doings is not out of order.

Dick Godfrey was a native of Dawson county, Georgia, son of an old Confederate soldier. While the elder Godfrey was in the Confederate Army during the Civil War, General Sherman overran the State of Georgia, spreading death and destruction over that fair land, and burning her Capitol, Atlanta. Dick Godfrey's mother and sister fled to North Carolina, where Mrs. Godfrey's mother lived, and here they found sanctuary for a time.

In 1870 the William J. Robertson family left Georgia bound for Texas and Dick Godfrey was with them, stopping at Menardville, Texas. At this time many big herds of cattle were being driven up the trail, and Dick Godfrey soon became a trail driver. No less than five trips he made up the trail. By no means did trail driving take up all of Godfrey's time. At this time the U. S. Government had soldiers stationed at Fort McKavett, near the head of the San Saba river in Texas. Godfrey secured a contract with the Government to furnish this fort with meat, also a contract to furnish beef at Tucson, Arizona, for the Indians on reservation there.

The question of whether or no to organize Menard into a county was much agitated just now. Dick Godfrey took an active part in supporting the proposition. Named for Michael Menard, founder of Galveston, Menard became one of 264 organized counties of Texas in 1871.

Dick Godfrey took much interest in good horses, and race horses especially. He owned a horse called "Crook" that won good money on many race tracks.

In June, 1881, Richard Godfrey and Miss Sarah Jane Tippen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John M. Tippen of Wallace Creek, San Saba county, were united in marriage. Their honeymoon was a long trip into the Davis Mountains and to Arizona by wagon. They planned to homestead land in the Gila river valley, Arizona. Later they returned to Menard county, Texas, bought a ranch, and bulit up a good herd of cattle. Their children are substantial citizens of Menard county. Mrs. Godfrey, while on a visit to her old Georgia home in 1903, sickened and died, the husband survived her till — — and at the ripe age of — — passed to his reward.

JAMES NAT HARTMAN. A native of Tennessee and a farmer by occupation, also his parents were native to Tennessee. He was born in 1833.

Wife, Nancy Hartman, was born in 1834 in Virginia, and her parents were native to that state.

Children: Elizabeth Hartman, born 1860; Hannah Hartman, born in 1862; Fortumas Hartman, born in 1863; Edward Hartman was born in 1867. The children were all native Texans.

PLEASANT HARTMAN. A native of Virginia, born there in 1855, his parents were of Virginia. He was a farmer by occupation.

Wife, Nancy Hartman, born in Arkansas in 1857, her father native to Mississippi, her mother native to Tennessee.

Children: William Hartman, born on Wallace Creek, San Saba, Texas, in 1881.

CAPTAIN WILLIAM HENRY LEDBETTER

Born December 5, 1843, in Giles county, Tennessee, on a plantation near Pulaski. Deceased January 22, 1918, and buried at Neal Cemetery, San Saba county, Texas.

FRANCES BOMAR-LEDBETTER: JENNETTIE May 25, 1850, in Wilson county, Tennessee, and deceased August 17, 1936, and buried by her husband's side in Neai Cemetery, San Saba county, Texas.

William Henry Ledbetter and Jennettie Frances Bomar were united in marriage in the town of San Saba, Texas, October 31, 1866, by George B. Cook, Chief Justice (afterwards called County Clerk) of San Saba county..

Children: William Riley Ledbetter, born August 12, 1867, in town of San Saba, Texas: married Mattie Shugart, Round Mountain, Blanco county, Texas, October 20, 1898, Rev. Bell officiating.

Zab Ledbetter, born April 2, 1870, in San Saba town. San Saba county, Texas: deceased March 2, 1919, buried

at Obella, Taylor county, Texas.

Callie Zenith Ledbetter, born August 11, 1873, on Wallace Creek, San Saba county, Texas, married Robert Wiley Gibbons of Bee county, Texas, July 26, 1906, in Mason, Texas, Rev. Penn F. Taylor officiating; husband deceased March, 1947, and buried in Rose Lawn Cemetery, San Antonio. Texas.

John Watson Ledbetter, born December 9, 1875, Wallace Creek, San Saba county, Texas, married Exel Ledbetter (no relation), daughter of John Ledbetter of San Saba, Texas, marriage in Houston, Texas, by Justice of Peace George Moss. She was born in Choctaw Nation (now a part of Texas) October 6, 1894. They had four children born to them—two boys and two girls.

Thomas Roy Ledbetter, born September 3, 1878, Wallace Creek, San Saba county, Texas, married Clara Shugart of Round Mountain, Blanco county, Texas, August 6, 1899, Rev. Joseph Dodgen officiating; deceased April 3. 1935, buried at Chula Vista, California.

Mary Alice Ledbetter, born May 9, 1881, at Wallace Creek, San Saba county, Texas, married Eugene McCoy of San Saba county, Texas, at Brady, Texas, by a county of-

ficial; one child, a son, Virgil McCoy, was born to them; husband deceased and buried at Junction Cemetery in Kimble county, Texas. The son is now married and has two sons.

Fred Armstrong Ledbetter, born June 10, 1883, Wallace Creek, San Saba county, Texas, married Norah Harrison of Mills county, Texas, February 7, 1901, by Rev. Shaw; husband deceased March 19, 1946, buried at Abilene, Taylor county, Texas; children, Clarence, R. V., deceased, Rose, Marion.

William Penn Ledbetter, born September 20, 1883, Wallace Creek, San Saba county, Texas, married Ethel McCoy June 30, 1905, Judge of Brown county officiating; ten children resulted from this union, i.e., Muriell, Zalma, Olita, Bura, Imogene, Alma, Flora, Noel.

George Ledbeteer, born October 8, 1887, Wallace Creek, San Saba county, Texas, deceased October 30, 1887, buried

Wallace Creek Cemetery, San Saba county, Texas.

Birdie Myrtle Ledbetter, born January 18, 1890, San Saba town, San Saba county, Texas, married Will Till of San Saba county, Texas, Nov. 4, 1908, in Goldthwaite, Mills county, Texas, by a minister of the Gospel; children, Leon, deceased; George, Alice, Will, Jr.

Jennettie Irene Ledbetter, born November, 1893, Spring Creek, San Saba county, Texas, married Scott Rutherford July 20, 1908, in Mills county, Texas, Rev. McDowell

officiating; one child, a son, Raymond.

Herewith follows William Henry Ledbetter's war history: Enlisted in the Confederate Army May, 1861, in Lamar county, Texas, as Sergeant in Company K, with Texas Infantrymen, Ectors' Brigade, Division, Polk's Corps, Army of Tennessee. Miller A. Dillard, 1st Captain, and S. B. Maxey 1st Colonel, and was granted a furlough. After this I was in active service as courier. I am sorry that I could not have reached Gems twenty-five minutes earlier. On one occasion as General Hood had been ordered to fall back, but had gone too far with an engaged contest, and during the slaughter of his men had his leg almost cut off by a cannon ball, at the same time I was wounded in my rear part, and had my horse killed under me. I crawled about a mile before I was picked up. When General Johnson was

put in command I was appointed Courier on his staff, and remained there until General Hood was put in command, when I was appointed Captain, and in command of the wounded who had been mobilized.

We made a trip around the Yankees two days and nights, tearing up railroad tracks, and picking up what food for horses and men we could find. We then returned to our army, which was at Atlanta and took a much needed rest. After remaining here a while I was ordered to proceed against a regiment nearby, attacking as I thought best. I had 462 men, and found that the Yankees had captured a distillery, and that the men were drunk and the officers were waiting for them to get sober enough to travel. this engagement we killed 96 and wounded 123. My loss was one man killed and one man wounded. Afterwards I saw a full force coming at full speed; we were behind a fence, and the front of their column got almost to us before we were discovered, and I ordered my men to hold fire till we were discovered, and at the first volley their Colonel was killed and 200 men wounded. I spent the night here attending the wounded and burying the dead. We dug long trenches, wrapping them in their blankets, and laid them side by side. We had captured many horses and were well mounted.

Before the battle of Franklin I had reduced my squad to 208 men and on the first days fight our General pointed out some high ground, and asked me to see if there were any Yankees over there. I found some. He was wounded at the battle of Shiloh by the bursting of a bomb shell, breaking collar bone and several ribs, also received serious wounds at Murfreesboro in arm and leg. After the battle of Shiloh the regiment re-elected officers. I was elevated to Lieutenant. After the battle of Perrisville, Ky., I commanded the company in the siege of Kenesaw Mt., was in the battle of Shiloh, Perrysville, Murfreesboro, Chickamauga and most of the siege from Chattanooga to Atlanta. and Hood's campaign and Hood's campaigns in Tennessee. At Franklin our company (112 men) met and organized at Benton Lake, Lamar County, Texas, and October that year 10 companies from different counties met 12 miles southwest of Paris and organized the Ninth Texas Regiment, S.

B. Maxey Colonel. After arriving at Memphis, Tennessee, we were ordered to Inka, Mississippi, and ten days before the battle of Shiloh, we were ordered to Corinth. Our part in the battle of Shiloh was to charge a battery, which we succeeded in completing. Here we lost Albert Sydney Johnson, and also lost what we had gained in the battle, as we fell back to Corinth. The former raid under Bragg was in 1863. Our regiment was at Chattanooga. We were sent to Glasgow, Kv., staving there about ten days, during which time the Yankees had advanced from Louisville, Bragg turned east from Glasgow and stopped at Perrysville, where we fought two days, killing and capturing more men than we had in our command. The next day we went to Bakersville. Tennessee, twenty-five miles from Perrysville. next battle was Murfreesboro. In the first day's battle I had 58 men and at night only 7, and only one of the seven escaped being wounded. I was wounded three times in this battle, once in the foot, which disabled me from military service. We captured some wounded men, and two doctors. and helped them to move the wounded men out of range of a fire in the cedar brake, and afterwards when I was wounded, the doctor who was with the wounded whom I had captured, made arrangements with the man with whom I was staving, to take me through the Federal lines, so escaped going to prison. I returned to my command at Shiloh. Tennessee, and in an endeavor to run out of a bad place. a cannon ball killed my horse, which fell on me and I came to consciousness at the home of a relative, where I was being treated by the doctor. This ended my active service.

This concludes the army service of Captain W. H. Ledbetter, as related by himself, but by no means ends his activities as an officer and man of law and order, as may be seen further on in this article.

Amongst Mrs. Zenith Ledbetter-Gibbons' father's (W. H. Ledbetter) war papers I found the following "Dedication," which, considering sentiment at this time, while Captain Ledbetter was in service, and for some time afterwards, I believe is appropriate at this place.

"Copied from The Boys in Grey."

"Dedicated to the Confederate Soldier by Mamie Yearly.

Dedication:

"To my Father, James K. P. Yearly, and my uncle, John P. Hale, and all those who wore the Grey from 1861 till 1865. No pen nor brush nor chisel can fully portray the Confederate soldier. His patriotism has elicited the admiration of the world; his courage the inspiration of all armies; his generalship the study of military critics; his strategy and tactics have been taught in the schools of other nations. While the freedom of the Confederate from greed and selfishness have been the wonder of peoples. To these illustrious heroes, mainly privates in the ranks, this volume is lovingly dedicated."

While living on Wallace Creek, San Saba county, Texas, and serving as Captain of a band of Rangers, Captain William H. Ledbetter had some correspondence with J. L. Bruton, Adjutant General of Texas. Follows a copy of a letter from Adjutant Bruton to Captain Ledbetter, written in answer to a letter from Captain Ledbetter to that Department, in discussing the Indian situation in Texas:

Adjutant General's Office,

State of Texas,

Austin, March 26th, 1873.

Lieutenant W. H. Ledbetter, Com'n'idg Co. "A" Minuet Men,

San Saba, Texas.

Sir:

Refering to your letter of 14th Inst, expressing your views as to the best method of affording Frontier protection, etc. I would state that I think myself the present system of Frontier protection is the best can, under the circumstances, be adopted.

Until the Federal Government changes their manner of treating the Indians it will be imposible for Texas to provide security for the frontier.

If you will report the men here, who have been in the

past, or in the future insubordinate, I will dismiss them, and you can recruit new ones in their stead.

Respecfully,

J. L. Bruton,

Adjutant General State of Texas.

Mrs. Zenith Ledbetter-Gibbons of San Antonio has kindly sent me the song, "The Texas Ranger." This, one time very popular song among our Texas cowboys, was composed by John Redmond Gibbons, great-uncle of Robert Wiley Gibbons, husband of Mrs. Zenith Ledbetter-Gibbons. John Redmond Gibbons served as a Texas Ranger 1841-1842, and died in San Antonio, Texas, in 1854, and buried at Camp Kelly. His headstone bears this inscription: J. R. Gibbons, Tex. Ranger, Wife, Sarah, at his side.

THE TEXAS RANGER

- (1) Come all you Texas Rangers, Wherever you may be;I'll tell you of some trouble That happened unto me.
- (2) About the age of sixteen,I joined the jolly band;We marched from San AntonioOn to the Rio Grande.
- (3) Our Captain, he informed us, Perhaps he thought it right, Before we reach the station, I'm sure we will have to fight.
- (4) I saw the Indians coming,I heard them give a yell;My feelings at that moment,No human tongue could tell.

- (5) I thought of my mother in tears, And she did say, To you, they are all strangers, With me you had better stay.
- (6) I thought she was childish, The best she did not know, My mind was bent on roving, And I was bound to go.
- (7) Our Captain, he then shouted; And gave us the command, Dismount from your saddles, And by your horses stand.
- (8) We fought for full nine hours, Before the strife was o're, The like of dead and wounded, I never saw before.
- (9) Five as noble Rangers
 As ever saw the west,
 Were buried by their comrades,
 May they forever rest.
- (10) I am now a roving Ranger, But not one as before, My mother and my sister Are here on earth no more.
- (11) My situation altered,As one can plainly see.I have neither friend or sweetheartTo mourn and weep for me.
- (12) Perhaps you have a mother, Likewise a sister, too, And maybe you have a sweetheart To mourn and weep for you.

(13) If this is your situation,
Although you love to roam,
I'll advise you, by experience,
You had better stay at home.

Captain W. H. Ledbetter and men served on the borders of San Saba, McCulloch, Mason, Llano and Coleman counties.

In the 1860's Captain Ledbetter encountered a band of Comanche Indians on one of the "Billie Knobs," which are three high round topped hills near the south end of the Cal Montgomery pasture, and routed them; no fatalities were reported, but several work and saddle horses were recovered.

CAPTAIN W. H. LEDBETTER MOVES FROM WALLACE CREEK; SOME OF HIS EXPERIENCES HE HAD WITH THE "MOB."

In the early 1890's Captain Ledbetter, having had quite serious financial reverses, sold his Wallace Creek home to — — Maas and bought cheaper land on Spring Creek on the Colorado river in the northern part of San Saba county. He was aware of the fact that there had been strong feeling between some of the citizens of Spring Creek, and that this feeling reached out beyond the Spring Creek community, and even across the Colorado river into Mills county, but had been assured that the bad matter was about settled, and peace was near. So, as has been stated, he invested his money in land and moved his family to Spring Creek, Spring Creek had neither school or church. Mr. and Mrs. Ledbetter were firm believers in education and in the spread of Christianity. They were anxious to have their children in school, to have it so they could hear the Gospel preached by God's ministers, and to have the teaching and good influence of the Sunday School. This being so, they set themselves the task of obtaining them. With the help of neighbors a small house was built, and a Sunday School was organized, and occasionally a preacher would expound the Gospel to them, also a one teacher school had, though for only a few months in the year.

Years slipped by and Spring Creek community was on the map. In the meantime the "Mob," which had been, apparently, about dead, suddenly flashed up, and became very active. It operated on both sides of the Colorado river, but to a larger extent on the south or San Saba county side. In order that the reader may have a clear view as to why "the Mob" came into existence, it is necessary for him to understand the conditions as they existed at the time. For the most part, excepting the cultivated patches, and very small pastures, the country was unfenced, cattle roamed at will, their sale value was all the way from \$5.00 to \$15.-00 per head. Every man (and some women) had a cow brand, and most brands, as the law required, were registered at the County Clerk's office at the Court House, A cow brute bearing a brand (uncanceled) recorded on the Mark and Brand Record in the County Clerk's office, established ownership beyond question. During Civil War days so many southern men and boys were in the Confederate Army that many herds of cattle were much neglected—calves went unbranded, in fact, oftentimes cattle reached maturity unbranded, such unbranded cattle were called "Mayericks." Many writers have written, explaining how the word MAVERICK, as relating to cattle, originated. most of them are altogether wrong. In Star Telegram. April 12th, 1953, Frank Dobie, our well known writer tales, Indian stories, etc., gives a true account of the origin of MAVERICK as applied to cattle. With his permission. here is a copy of his statement:

"Samuel Augustus Maverick was a lawyer and speculator in lands. He was never a rancher, but in 1847 he took 400 head of stock cattle in payment for a \$1200.00 debt, and turned them loose on land he owned in Matagordia Peninsular. They cost him \$3.00 per head. He and family were living on Matagordia Peninsular at the time, but they soon moved back to San Antonio, leaving the cattle under the care of a slave named Jack. Jack did not keep the increase branded. In 1854 Maverick moved the cattle to a range on the San Antonio river, near the Conquista Ford, about 50 miles below San Antonio. Here Jack went his easy way, and the cattle went wild. There were no fences, when men in the vicinity saw an unbranded heifer, cow or bull,

they'd say, "That must be one of Mavericks." Before long such an animal was simply called a "Maverick." People were branding these mavericks with their own brands. In 1856, Maverick sold, by correspondence, his entire stock, range delivery, for \$2,000.00. The buyer estimated that he could gather, maybe, 300 head; the owner thought he should have 400 head—the number he had started with nine years before. During that time he seems to have sold only a few steers."

It was the custom—and no one questioned the fairness of it—for any cattle owner who found unbranded yearlings, or other cattle, in his cattle range to brand it for himself. As a fact, many who owned no cattle, branded these mavericks for themselves; thus appropriating to himself that which by no means belonged to him, and this was frowned on by honest cattlemen, but no open protest was made against it. As time passed the custom continued, and dishonest men developed on it; unbranded calves were taken from their mothers, confined for a period to locate them on a new range. One instance this writer recalls of two men anxious to enlarge their herds, and had no qualms as to how it was to be accomplished, built a strong enclosure by chopping down cedar trees and brush in such manner that they lapped and overlapped, forming a pasture of perhaps 20 acres. This trap had, most of the time, a small stream of water running through it, and was in a rough out of the way country, a place so rough and far from regular travel that its existence was very unlikely to be known. They placed in this enclosure from time to time ten, twenty or more mavericks and branded cattle of various ages. The branded cattle were what was called "burnt" cattle. burnt animal was one that had previously been branded (usually with its owners brand) and now the would-be owner placed his brand with a hot branding iron so as to cover up or change the original brand like this: J T original brand, burnt brand or E L L original brand burnt brand IIIII, the first new brand was called ladder and the second new brand was called pig pen. Some brands were so easy to change that after the burnt one had been applied and healed, it was impossible to detect the fraud. It came to be said that if "a poor widow woman turned out her milk

calf to grass, was lucky if she ever saw it again." Few, if any, convictions were had, but new hearings, continuances and bonds made for the accused. Instead of growing better. the situation steadily grew worse, and it was now that "The Mob" came into existence. The courts failing to deal out justice, citizens took the law into their own hands. A few men who were accused of cow stealing were shot and killed or found hanging by the neck in a tree; then, as is always the case of mob law, matters got out of hand, "The Mob" had created an evil worse than the one it sought to cure. Innocent men were warned to leave the country, men passing through the country, in which the "Mob" was in control, were held up at the point of a Winchester and told not to come back. A certain Baptist minister, passing through on his way to meet an appointment at some church, was held up, and after much questioning released and warned to "go round" next time. Another, a single man, was held up, and after threats of future violence, should he remain in the country, turned loose and given three days in which to leave the country; he told them that he would give them back two days, and did. Another man living near Cotton Wood Pond, on coming home horseback from Richland Springs one night, was hailed by voices out of the brush near the roadside, and commanded to "Halt." Instead of halting he put spurs to his horse and fled. The mob sought to run him down or to surround him, but he never slackened pace, running his horse through the shallow waters of Cotton Wood Pond, and escaping. Early the next day he, with loaded wagon with family, and small supply of household goods, landed at a friend's in the Rock Shoales community. Later when asked why he left Cotton Wood Pond, he replied that "he seed too much, he reconded."

Mrs. Zenith Ledbetter-Gibbons has kindly related some of the W. H. Ledbetter family experiences with the Mob, and we herewith reproduce them.

"After living at Spring Creek less than a year the W. H. Ledbetter family were in need of meat, and the Captain having a good calf out on the range, decided to go get it and butcher it for home use. After a diligent search on the hills and finding no beef he decided it had gone to water,

so he rode towards Buzzards' Water Hole, about one mile from his home, and as he rode down a steep hill near a dense thicket, a voice from it said, "Go round." Mr. Ledbetter rode on a ways and met a man whom Mr. Ledbetter knew slightly, and was from out the community. He was known as a model cowman, yet this man came to attention and presented his Winchester in a threatening manner, and nearby, but unseen, someone said, "Go round." Captain Ledbetter continued on his way towards the water hole: shortly afterwards a man of good reputation rode up to the Captain, and with pointed gun demanded that he "Go round." by this time he was near enough to Buzzards' Water Hole to see that there was a bunch of men collected there. He recognized about thirty of them, and this looked like a knockout, however they released him, and he went home, but with no beef."

"That night," continues Mrs. Gibbons, "their nearby neighbor was aroused by the rolling of rocks on the hill-side; a bunch of men rode by the house going east and between two neighboring fields, and crossing Spring Creek. They stopped at the home of Albert Petty, recently from Cherokee, and gave him orders to leave the country." Albert Petty was half-brother of Andrew Petty, now a valuable citizen of San Saba county, and one time Tax Assessor of San Saba county. He heeded the mob's orders and moved to Alabama, where he lived some two or three years, when he received a letter telling him to come back to Texas. The writer had this statement from Andrew Petty on his Golden Wedding Anniversary.

Mrs. Gibbons continues: "Up to this time Father had not told us of his experiences while hunting the beef. My brothers had seen a number of men on horseback, with guns strapped to their saddles, and headed towards Buzzards' Water Hole. From the Petty home the men came to our place, only a short ways from the road, and scattered over the yard; we children were all in wonderland as to their presence. Brother John, with hospitality in mind asked them "down." It was too dark to distinguish rider from mount. They asked if father was at home; he had gone to move some wild bees off the road, and when asked if we should call him, replied, no, but to tell him if he heard

or saw anything today to keep his mouth shut. We asked father no questions and knew that it was a business affair, and that he would keep his own council. Father told no one of that days happenings but continued in his Sunday School and Church work as if no unusual thing had occurred. By quiet observation we learned more and more. Time passed, our boys grew to manhood, the country was settling up. Jim Brown, living on China Creek, one afternoon was shot and killed from ambush, on his horse. This created no excitement amongst the people, they knew that his father (Ace Brown) had been found hanging in a post oak tree, dead, not so long before.

"Some time passed then a man and his two nephews, not of our community, a widow and her sons had orders to leave the country, said orders were posted on a tank dump. He had a large family to provide for and had a hard time to keep up the payments due on his home, and could not leave his work without pauperizing himself.

"A few more weeks and summer was with us. As was the custom, people of adjacent communities got together and had camp meetings, in which religious services were had day and night. Usually several preachers were in attendance, and would take it turn about preaching. It seemed to be the rule for some preacher, who was noted for his stirring talks, to hold forth at nights, as it was then that sinners were more strenuously warned to flee the wrath to come, and seek solace at the mourner's bench. In preparation for a camp meeting, neighbors would meet some days before the meeting was to open, and build an arbor, under which the preaching was held. Campers erected tents, and brought food for themselves and others. Sometimes a big long table was erected, and several families contributed food to this table, and preachers, visitors and whoever, was invited to eat here.

"Brother Bill came with us. We and neighbor girls and boys came in a large farm wagon, so he said he was going to see his girl home, and for me to go home and not be uneasy, that he was coming over the hills through the woods. The next day a man was hauling water from the Colorado river, and though he had his Winchester with him, someone in the roadside brush ambushed and shot him. This

caused quite a stir amongst the people. Another man was cutting cord wood in the Dove pasture of the community and was shot and killed. Indications were that the "mob" was out for more victims. Several incidents happened but no more killings. People quit having church services. Young people would have social speaking. The crowd was so well known that when they saw a bunch of horses hitched, they would tie their horses wherever a horse was seen tied; the mob folks would do the same way. I mention this so you can see the situation. Our home had the only organ in several communities, and at nights when we had singing, the house would be full, though no one spoke about the situation.

"Soon after one of the last men was killed, his brother came to where the dead man had lived, and men on both sides of the Colorado river organized themselves into a band to take the situation in hand—this was known as the "Anti Mob." This brother went to San Saba and interviewed some of the higher up officials, telling them, "You have the law in your hands and have picked men organized, and they have always been anti mob in effect, and you call the Texas Rangers here. I'll just give you three days to do that, and if you don't we are going to execute the law ourselves; you officials could stop this if you would do it." The reply, "Court will meet in a few weeks, and we will look into this." "We can't trust the Court longer, do as I say." Four Rangers came, and when District Court convened there like to have been an open battle. Captain John Sullivan told Edgar Neal, one of his best men, and afterwards Sheriff of San Saba county for 18 years, "Get your Winchester and join me in the Court House." A certain Judge. a good man, but blinded, said, "Neal, put that Winchester back." Neal replied, "Judge the State of Texas pays me to carry this Winchester, and I'll stand by it as long as there is a drop of blood in my veins."

"So the Rangers had deputized Father for a special to help them, and armed him to protect his own life. They had his record as an old Ranger, and he was in town, and he saw this judge going over to the 'phone office, and he told Father that he was going to have the Adjutant General remove the Rangers. "They are involving our best citizens

in this." Father replied, "Did you know these Texas Rangers hold a higher office than you do? In less than twentyfour hours he will re-inforce these;" and he did send sixteen more men. Judge Linden was (a young man) District Attorney, coming in to take the bench, but he let the outgoing Judge preside over Court and question the Grand Jury room. He would tell each one, "If you have reason to believe that any one of this jury belongs to the mob, I'll have him excused;" of course no one was excused, and I know that a very few told what they knew. He told Father the same. He, the Captain, told the Judge how many he had on the jury of mob leaning, "but however I can testify to what little I know," so that was the first time he opened his mouth." I believe people belonged to it that didn't know what they were doing till they were involved, and then they were afraid, and some actually persuaded themselves that they were in the right. Someone has said that we can't know the human heart, but I believe that most of them were glad it was ended. Of course the more brutish that would do the killing for the money still stood up against all they hated, and some of the mob they could not feel at ease with. They tried to get Father to move, but he told them it was his country, and that he had never moved from outlaws. So in after years when Mother's Ranger pension was long due, even before Father died, and he needed it so bad, but it was withheld, and he never censored one person. I told my Father, "Go down to Judge Linden's office; it's going to take an attorney to straighten those pension holders out." So he went. Linden was glad to see "The Old Captain" and had his stenographer to write this for him: "I'm doing this and no attorney's fees to be charged for services rendered by me by Captain Ledbetter in helping me enforce the law when I was District Attorney embracing San Saba county."

"Oh, that trouble, financial trouble and drouth, took the health and spirit of a strong inflexible will and brave man, so he just gradually lost out till death took him. Nothing but eternity can reveal his sorrow. Now the land in that once worthless country is selling for \$35.00 and \$40.00 per acre. Peace for this troubled soul and rest to his ashes."

PAUL WILLIAM GIBBONS AND HIS WAR EXPERIENCES — WORLD WAR NO. II

Referring the reader to the biographical sketch of Captain W. H. Ledbetter, we find that he and wife, Jennettie Frances Bomar-Ledbetter, had born to them eleven children, and that the third one was Callie Zenith Ledbetter, who was born on Wallace Creek, San Saba county, Texas, August 11th, 1873, and that she married Robert Wiley Gibbons of Bee county, Texas, now deceased, on July 6th, 1906, at Mason, Texas. That to this union was born three children, of which was Paul Gibbons (subject of this sketch) was one, having been born in San Saba county, Texas, on Spring Creek, December 22nd, 1907. He was reared in San Saba county, and was one of the San Saba High School Class of 1927. This class had 54 members and is said to have been the biggest of record. The roster of Class 1927, San Saba High, follows: Thomas Alan Sloan, Paul William Gibbons, James W. Harrell, James G. Huckaby, John S. Schneider, Eunice E. Loucks, Sam W. Patterson, James J. Dailey, Paul W. Roberds, Francis M. Deese, John Mac Alexander, Loraine Franklin, James W. Murray, William A. Ledbetter, John F. Ragsdale, Sara Johnson, Lillian Rich, Eugene A. Walker, Benjamin O. Hubbert, Harris W. Fagg. John W. Carroll, Sarah M. Hunter, John H. Burnham, Mary L. Lanham, Cynthia Johnson, Sarah K. Walker, Melba Jo Brown, Madeline Callahan, Martha C. Burke, Nelda T. Newby, Mary I. Horton, Julia E. Whitman, Gladys E. Pierce, Lois M. Burnham, Frank A. Sloan, Luther W. Hufstutler, Thomas E. Hudson, Archie M. Moore, Carra I. Ponton, Johnie L. Moore, E. Lena Behrens, Wardine M. Click, Nila Mae McDaniel, Monteray Hendricks, Velda Jo Smith, Clell R. Smith, Colen B. Gauny, Hubbert C. Brown. Cecil R. Oliver, V. Genevieve Halden, Arba L. Solsbery, Oma Lee Roberds, Paul J. Sloan, Gussie L. Linn.

James Murray, President, Hubbert Brown, Vice-President, Julia Whitman, Secretary.

The war experiences of Paul Gibbons, as set down in the following pages, are almost identical as Mr. Gibbons wrote them out for me November 25th, 1950, while sta-

tioned at San Diego, California. In his letter introducing his war experiences, Mr. Gibbons makes the statement that he had rather face the flash of gunfire again than to go into an extended recital of those awful nerve wracking, history making events that covered the Pacific Ocean from Pearl Harbor to the Mikado's home islands.

"I, Paul William Gibbons, born in San Saba county, Texas, December 22nd, 1907, joined the U.S. Navy January the t6h, 1931. I served a routine navy life until the war (World War No. II). The first action I saw since Pearl Harbor was on the U.S.S. Astoria, was as a Boatswain's Mate Second Class. The Astoria was one of the cruisers to operate with two aircraft carriers, Lexington and Yorktown, shooting down enemy aircraft and affording all the protection to the carriers against air and surface attacks possible.

"I can send you a book written on the campaigns up to the Coral Sea Battle, where we lost the U.S.S. Lexington. In the next, Midway Battle, the U.S.S. Yorktown was lost. She is just as famous as the U.S.S. Enterprise except she did not "live" to reap the reward of the glory of a winner to come all the way through. Then, next, my very own ship got in an awkward situation after we had taken Guadalcanal 7th of August, 1942, in an amphibious operation, where ships shelled and troops landed August 9th, 1942. in Battle of Savos Iland the Cruisers Astoria, Quincy, Vincinnes, and the British Canberra were lost in surface action with enemy surface craft, enemy cruisers and enemy destrovers. I was one of the volunteers to go back aboard the Astoria after it was abandoned to salvage it, but it sank and I was left holding to an empty powder can until I was picked up by a ship's motor whale boat.

"I was soon afterwards aboard the U.S.S. President Jackson's transport having just landed some of the troops on Guadalcanal. The survivors of the cruiser put a new cruiser in commission in Philadelphia, the U.S.S. Santa Fe. After it took a part in the taking of Attu in Aleutian Islands near Alaska, I was advanced to First Class Boatswain's Mate, and went to Brooklyn, New York, and put a transport in commission—U.S.S. Fayette (A.P.A.-43) as Chief. In Pearl Harbor I went to the U.S.S. Heywood

(A.P.A.-6) as Chief, and we went through the Marshall Islands campaign, and later Saipan and Tinyan operation the same time Guam was re-taken from the Japs — our amphibious operations.

"The war soon ended afterward, chalking me up with seven battle stars."

Thus ends Paul Gibbons' modest recital of his experiences in World War No. II.

From the Pearl Harbor surprise and disaster for six or more months Japan had things just about as it wanted them, or in other words, she had everything going her way. After the American Nation became fully aroused to the terrible situation, called into use her mighty resources and changed overnight her immense factories from civilian and household manufacturing to that of guns, airplanes, bombers, bulldozers, ships, submarines, and whatever that was calculated to harass and destroy the enemy. And all this time bigger and better training camps were being opened. and more and still more of our young men were being drafted and trained to go after and defeat the enemy. Churchill had warned that it would take "blood, sweat and tears" to win the war. Millions learned that this was the solemn truth. Once America became fully organized and ready for war the pendulum swung slowly but surely back from defeat and slavery to a glorious victory, and peace terms instead of being made in Tokyo, as a Japanese General had said they would be, were dictated in Washington.

Late historians tell us now that during the American-Japanese War our people were not told much about it, and that our leaders, at one time, were very uncertain as to who were to be the victors. It was in January, 1942, in Burma that General "Vinegar Joe" Stillwell said, "I claim that we took a hell of a licking."

DAVID DeCALB WOODS AND SARAH EMELINE SLOAN-WOODS

David DeCalb Woods, born May 14th, 1848, in the State of Arkansas. In 1855 or 1856 Amasiah (Big Uncle) Woods and wife, Martha Dowdle-Woods, moved to San Saba county, Texas, and stopped on lower Wallace Creek for a

time. Then Amasiah Woods bought a tract of land two miles upstream from Richland Springs, built a log cabin and moved his family into it. David DeCalb Woods, the 8th child in the Amasiah Woods family, went by the name of Dee Woods and signed his name D. C. Woods; he was energetic and thrifty, so when he came of age his accumulated earnings enabled him to enter business for himself.

The wife: Sarah Emeline Sloan-Woods, born Nov. 26, 1854, at Gatesville, Coryell county, Texas. In the spring of 1855 her parents, Dr. Alan Sloan and Nancy Hester-Sloan, moved to San Saba county, Texas, and settled on the San Saba river at Sutton Crossing, later called Double Ford. Oct. 2nd, 1856, she lost her mother in death, and May 26th, 1857, her father also. Sarah Sloan went to school to Mrs. Margaret Maxwell, who taught in a log house in the Feazle Bottom, near Double Ford, also she and her brother, Calvin Sloan, went to school at the Rose school house, taught by Professor Samuel Lee, a graduate of Yale University, also a cousin of General Robert E. Lee. This school house was also made of logs, had a dirt floor, one door and no windows, but a big rock chimney to build wood fire in.

July 2nd, 1870, David DeCalb Woods and Sarah Emeline Sloan were united in marriage, the Rev. John Hudson, Cumberland Presbyterian Minister of the Gospel, performing the marriage ceremony. The young married couple settled on lower Wallace Creek, where they owned their own home. About 1873 De Woods bought a big lot in San Saba, erected a comfortable home on it and moved his family to it. About this time De Woods and John McConnell formed a partnership and engaged in the mercantile business of buying and selling groceries and dry goods. Their place of business was in one of five houses then standing on the west side of the Court House square at San Saba, Texas. Theirs was a prosperous business. The firm name, WOODS AND McConnell.

In 1881 or 1882 Woods and McConnell dissolved partnership and each one of them established a grocery business for himself in San Saba. De Woods was a man well liked by everyone and soon built up a flourishing grocery trade.

Be it remembered that at this time San Saba had no

railroad and freight by ox wagon from Austin, more than 100 miles away, was the nearest place for San Saba merchants to get their supplies.

In those days country people went to town not oftener than once a week, and more often than not, only once a month. Usually the trip to town was by horseback or in a horse-drawn vehicle; an ox drawn wagon was no uncommon sight. If on horseback, one took along a seamless sack to carry his groceries in: sack had a capacity of two bushels of shelled corn. Groceries were wrapped up in brown paper and securely tied with cotton string, then placed in the seamless sack, the open end or sack tied with a buckskin string good and tight. Contents so shifted as to balance as a saddlebag and placed across the saddle in front of rider. If town was 10 or 15 miles away it took all day to make the trip. Suppose a member of the family took sick and a doctor was needed, someone was notified of the fact, and within minutes the messenger, likely a near neighbor, was galloping towards town. It mattered not for whom the doctor was needed, to refuse to go was unheard of.

Born to David DeCalb and Sarah Emeline Woods were the following children:

(1) Mary Vallie Woods, born May 3rd, 1872, on Wallace Creek, San Saba county, Texas. Went to San Saba public school and attended Trinity University at Tehuacana, Texas. After the death of her father, D. C. Woods, Dec. 28, 1885, she was as one of the Sloan children, was trained in the art of housekeeping and cooking, attended church and Sunday school, thus becoming fitted to fill her place in the nation and church.

August, 1892, she and Thomas Alexander (Pete) Baker were united in marriage by the Rev. B. L. Bomar, Cumberland Presbyterian minister of the Gospel, at her home with Uncle Tom and Aunt Emma. The new married couple made their home on a fine tract of land in the Algerita area. After a few years they sold out and moved to San Saba, going into partnership with Will Harris in the grocery business. Some years later Pete Baker sold out in San Saba and the family moved to Safford, Arizona, where he engaged in the cotton ginning business. They had born to them eight children, Viz. 1) Mary Olive Bak-

- er, 2) Brooks Baker, 3) Morton Baker, 4) Nellie Baker, 5) Roy Baker, 6) Helen Baker, 7) Raymond Baker, 8) Margie Baker, 9) Alexander Baker, deceased. Pete and Vallie Baker were members of the Catholic Church, he is deceased, she, 1954, survives.
- (2) Archibald Overton Woods, born Aug. 29, 1874, at home in San Saba, Texas. When eight years old his mother died and when 11 years old his father died. From the death of his mother till that of his father, his Aunt Mary Sloan had been a mother to the Woods orphan children. Now that the father was gone, she felt that the responsibility was too heavy, so Vallie, Archie and Roy Woods went to live with their Uncle Tom and Aunt Emma Sloan in the Rock Shoales, now Sloan, community.

Archie went to San Saba public school and finished at A. & M. College at Bryan, Texas. Since coming to Rock Shoales most of Archie's time between schools was taken up horseback riding, looking after livestock on the J. T. Ranch. Under the expert tutelage of "Uncle Tom" he became a good cowboy, was good with horses and showed aptitude in the management of cattle. He helped drive more than one herd of J T steers from the ranch to the R. R. for shipment to market. Railroad meant Lometa, Goldthwaite, Brownwood or Lampasas, as they were convenient points of shipment.

Finished with school, he kept books for a while for the Express Co. at San Saba and in connection with it, kept the books for Wiley Urquhart Livery Stable. In the middle 1890's he entered business for himself, opening a hardware

and variety business in San Saba, Texas.

Sept. 3, 1899, Archie Woods and Estelle Worsham of Galveston were united in marriage, and to them were born three children, namely: (1) Dorothy Woods, married North Millican and lives in San Saba, Texas; (2) Sarah Sloan Woods, married Richard Austin and they live at Donna, Texas; (3) Bill Arch Woods, married and lives in Denver, Colorado.

Archie and Estelle Woods were members of the Episcopal Church, he also a Woodman of the World and a Mason. In 1915 he entered the race for County Clerk for San Saba county, and in the General Election in November, won

by a handsome majority. In January, 1916, he qualified for that office and for 32 years gave his faithful service to it. During the latter half of the tenure of office he was stricken with paralysis, later he recovered sufficiently to carry on at the Clerk's office, still later relapses and accidents made an invalid of him until death gave his frail body relief, July 19, 1952.

Funeral services were conducted at 4 p.m. at the Episcopal Church at San Saba. The Rev. Walter Wickard, Pastor, officiated at the funeral. Pallbearers were: Robert Sloan, Jr., Reuben Ashley, Charles Little, Warren Randelph, Clay Kuykendall and Vernon Millican. At the grave the Masons took charge and finished the services with Masonic honors. Howell-Doran funeral directors had charge of arrangements. Offices of the County Court House were closed in the afternoon of his funeral as a mark of respect. Burial took place in the San Saba Cemetery.

(3) Roy De Woods, born in family home at San Saba, Texas, March 29, 1877, lost his mother in death, 1882, and his father, 1885. After the death of his mother, his Aunt Mary Sloan was a mother to the woods children till the death of their father, then the three older children went to live with Uncle Tom and Aunt Emma Sloan at Rock Shoales, now Sloan, community. Vallie, Archie and Roy were considered members of the family and received the same consideration as did the Sloan children.

At that time public schools in the country, were, as a rule, of short duration. And for their children to get proper schooling some communities hired a teacher and paid him by subscription, and so extended the school term. Occasionally a family hired a private teacher to come and teach in their home. Roy Woods received a part of his schooling in this manner. Roy helped on the Sloan ranch, as did also his brother and sister—Roy and Archie on the ranch and Vallie in the home—just as did the Sloan children. Under Uncle Tom's training Roy became a good manager of livestock. After finishing school, Roy bought a livery stable in San Saba and operated it some years.

Sept. 20, 1899, Roy De Woods and Eugene Pearcy were united in marriage at the home of her parents, Astol and Lena Marr-Pearcy, in the Sloan community. Roy

and Eugene Woods had born to them children as follows: (1) Vallie Eugene Woods, born Feb. 9, 1901, married Geo. Walker, deceased, left two sons, Terrance Walker and Frank (Bubba) Walker; (2) Ruth Evelyn Woods, born March 1, 1903, married Curtis Lanham; (3) Sarah Alice Woods, born Dec. 11, 1905, married K. N. McBride; (4) De Pearcy Woods, born Feb. 12, 1910, married Iona Lusty; (5) Joe Sloan Woods, born July 29, 1912, married Marjorie Bullock; (6) Mary Lucille Woods, born March 1, 1919, married Leonard S. Martin.

In 1907, Roy Woods leased the Sloan ranch in Kimble county and stocked it with good Hereford cows and operated it for a time, sold out and moved back to San Saba county. Now, 1954, he and wife live in San Saba town.

- (4) Joe Caldwell Woods, born Feb. 14, 1879, at his home in San Saba city; deceased Feb. 18, 1883, buried in Wallace Creek Cemetery.
- (5) Ola Woods, born Feb. 6, 1881, at her home in San Saba city, Texas, lived with her Aunt Mary Sloan after her father's death in 1885 till 1900 when she and Richard Bloodworth Taylor were united in marriage, in January, 1900.

They had born to them children as follows: (1) Mary Madis Taylor, born November, 1900; (2) Guy Taylor; (3) Dee Taylor, born May, 1904, deceased Nov. 12, 1904; (4) Infant son died at birth, not named. (5) Elizabeth Taylor. (6) Richard Taylor; (7) Lewis Taylor;)8) Doris Taylor.

Richard and Ola Taylor moved to Bay City, Texas; he deceased.

DEWITT CLINTON ASHLEY: Was a Christmas gift December 25, 1842, was of Scotch-Irish descent, and a native of Kentucky, but his parents moved to Arkansas early in his life, and in that state he grew to manhood, and enlisted in the Confederate Army in 1861. There seems to be no record as to whom he served under or as to what battles he had part in but he served four years in the army, and was promoted to Captain during the time, also he received at least two wounds in battle. This would seem to indicate that he had plenty of action while serving his espoused cause.

Soon after the Civil War ended Captain Ashley re-

turned to Arkansas and married Anna York, and for a time they resided in the small town of Cotten Plant, Ark.

Many tales were in circulation as to the opportunities in the great State of Texas, so about 1872 Captain Ashley and wife hit the trail for the Lone Star State, and finally settled on Wallace Creek, San Saba County, Texas. Here he engaged in the cattle business.

Five children were born to D. C. and Anna York-Ashlev, namely: William Alfus Ashley, who married Miss Mattie Grav, daughter of Rubin Grav, pioneer ranchman of Cherokee, Texas, Alfus, commonly called Alf, pursued the ranching business all his life. He died at home at San Saba, June 20, 1938, and now rests in Gray Cemetery at head of Cherokee, Texas. Minnie Ashlev, who married George Brown; Clinton Comodore Ashley; Bernard Ashley; Emmett Ashley, deceased in 1899. In 1877 Anna-York Ashley was stricken by the great white plague, and quickly succumbed. Her body rests in Wallace Creek Cemetery. Feeling the need of a home companion, about a year later Captain Ashlev took to wife Miss Mollie Allen of Goldthwaite. Texas. Soon after this marriage the D. C. Ashlev family moved to San Saba and Mr. Ashley engaged in a general merchandising business.

To the second marriage were born the following children: Amelia Ashley, who married Dr. T. H. Cheatham; Myrtle Anna Ashley, who married M. O. Sims; Mollie, who married T. B. English; she died in 1888.

Though fate had deprived him of two companions, Captain Ashley was unwilling to remain a single man and married the third time—this time he took to wife Miss Ruby Allen, and to this union were born four children, as follows: Ethan Allen Ashley, who married Frances Empy; Valelia Teague Ashley, who married C. O. Scott; Mara Pearl, who married T. B. Hart, Jr.; Cecil Ashley, who married Charlotte A. McLendon.

A few years after his second marriage Captain Ashley sold his San Saba mercantile business and moved to Goldthwaite, Texas, and there continued in the ranching business till the day of his death March 4, 1904, and was laid to rest in the Goldthwaite Cemetery.

Alf Ashley's widow, Mrs. Mattie Gray-Ashley, lives in

San Saba, and her sons, Reuben Ashley, ranches on the divide between Rough Creek and Simpson Creek; and Carlos Ashley is a practicing lawyer of Llano, and a few years ago was assistant Attorney General of Texas. He has also won considerable fame as a writer of poems. "That Spotted Sow" being one of his best known.

WILLIAM DENISON, a native of Tennessee, was born February 23, 1845. When young William was only four years old, his father and family moved to Travis county, Texas, this in 1849. The urge to go west found the Denison family, a few years later, living in Llano county, Texas.

Bill (is the name his friends used) Denison met Chriestein Welgenhausen, daughter of a substantial German family of San Antonio, Texas. At first sight the attraction was mutual, rapidly the attraction blossomed into love. In 1871 they were united in marriage at her parents' home in San Antonio. The newlyweds settled in Llano county for about fourteen years. While living in Llano county, Mr. Denison followed ranching for a livelihood, but considerable time was spent fighting Indians. At this time just about all of west and central Texas was subject to Indian depredations during the light of the moon. San Saba. Llano, Mason, Burnet and other nearby counties were almost certain, every "light of the moon" to have a visit from the red rascals. Most times they seemed to be satisfied with stealing the white man's horses, and butchering a few of his cattle, at other times in addition to stealing horses. they burned houses, ambuscaded and killed white men and kidnapped women and children, or else murdered them and mutilated their bodies.

As a rule roving bands of Indians did the depredating, but in the summer of 1873 Llano county, especially in the southern part, had so many of their cattle killed and cowponies stolen, at times other than when it was "moonshiny nights" that the conclusion was, there was an Indian camp not very far away, and the indication was that this camp was on Packsaddle Mountain, some fifteen miles southeast of Llano town. About August the 9th, 1873, one of Moss Brothers, who ranched in south part of Llano county, had a milk cow come running and bawling to the cow-

pen, with an arrow sticking in her ribs. This settled it; the Moss Brothers and some neighbors decided to locate the Indian camp, and to put the depredating rascals out of business. So on August 10th, 1873, W. B. Moss, S. R. Moss, S. B. Moss, Eli Loyd, Archer Martin, Pinckney Avers, Robert Brown, E. D. Harrington, Bill Denison and Joe Smith. The last two names do not appear of record, and are not on the monument erected on or near the battle ground. Mrs. Will Martin, who is daughter of Bill Denison, and who lives on Wallace Creek, told this writer that her father. Bill Denison, was in the Packsaddle Mountain fight. Joe Smith of Cherokee, San Saba county, said that his father. Joe Smith, Sr., was in the Packsaddle Mountain fight, but that he did not start out with the others, but joined them after they were well along towards Packsaddle Mountain. The story of the battle of Packsaddle Mountain, which follows, is based, mainly, on the recital of it in J.W. Wilbarger's Indian Depredations in Texas published by Hutchens Printing House at Austin, Texas, in 1889, Also I have talked with old settlers of Llano county on the subject.

Battle of Packsaddle Mountain. On the morning August 10th, 1873, the eight (or was it ten?) men before mentioned, started from the Moss ranch on a hot trail in search of the Indian camp; after following the trail some eight miles, they found that the new trail verged into an old one near Packsaddle Mountain, and it led straight to the summit of the mountain. The cowboys dismounted and carefully inspected their Spencer rifles and Colts pistols, and adjusted their saddle girths; their only thought was to go forward and find that pesky Indian camp. They remounted and cautiously ascended that extremely rough mountain. Half way up the mountain the cowboys discovered the Indian lookout. They said that he sat on a rock ledge holding a small mirror before him, and was busy smearing red clay or red ocher paint on his face. So busy was this young buck with his toilet that the cowboys came within a few yards of him before he was aware of their presence, then he dropped looking glass, and paint, fetched a keen vell and was gone in a hurry. The cowboys supposed he was hurrying to warn his people in camp, and followed him as fact as the rough terrain would permit. On

top of Packsaddle Mountain is a rather long table land or plateau, but it is not very wide. At one end of the plateau was the Indian camp, at the other end they had their horses staked out to grass. Sizing up the situation at a glance. the cowbovs dashed in between the encampment and the horses, dismounted and made ready for battle. In the meantime, the Indians had siezed their guns, and firing a volley at the boys, made a rush charge to recover their horses. The first volley by the Indians proved that they were by no means bad marksmen, for four white boys were wounded, three so severely that their fighting was ended. This left seven white men against twenty-one Indians. The red warriors now came to close quarter with their enemy, but our cowboys, well practiced in the use of rifles and pistols. poured such a continuous and deadly fire from Spencer rifles and Colt pistols that the Indians were compelled to fall back. The retreat was only temporary; the red men quickly reformed and charged the cowboys again, determined to drive them from their position at any and all hazards, but the cowboys stood their ground, and their pistols spoke loud and fast in the hand to hand struggle. Again the red foe was driven back to his encampment, only to re-form and charge again and again. But in vain, for these indomitable cowboys were not to be moved. At last the Indians fell back to some underbrush in the rear of their encampment, and the cowbovs decided that they had abandoned the fight altogether, so laid down their arms and gave their attention to their wounded comrades. While they were administering to their wounded the Indians headed by their youthful and courageous chief, emerged from the thicket, apparently with the intention of renewing the fight. The cowboys quickly sprang to their guns. and were ready for the onslaught. Advancing only a few yards beyond the thicket the Indians came to a halt; their chief turned and began to harrangue his warriors. The cowboys could hear his speech distinctly, and though they understood no words, yet by the vehement gestures of the chief, knew that he was urging his men to make one more trial to drive the white man from Packsaddle Mountain. The harrangue did not avail. Those deadly Spencer rifles pointing at them was too much, and they refused to go

forward. After a time, seeing that he could not induce his men to make another charge, he waved them back, contemptuously, advanced alone with gun in hand, stopping now and then, firing at his white foe. Thus he advanced to within a few paces of the cowboys, fell dead pierced with many Spencer bullets. He had made up his mind. rather than return to his people in disgrace, to die an honorable death on the battlefield. Their chief dead the Indians retreated into the thicket, carrying their dead and wounded with them, wrapped in blankets. Whether they overlooked them or for some other reason, they left their chief and two dead warriors on the field of battle. The cowbovs made no move to pursue the defeated Indians, but contented themselves with taking charge of a large number of horses, a number of robes and Navajo blankets, silver mounted saddles and bridles. Winchester and Henry rifles, revolvers and camp equipment. Among the saddles was one with the maker's name stamped on it, also where made, "Tucson, Arizona," and from this fact, and that the Indians were much better armed and equipped than the Comanches, led the victors to conclude they were Apaches from Arizona. This was the last Indian raid into Llano county. Report has it that the State of Texas rewarded the cowboys with a fine Winchester rifle each.

Bill Denison also participated in the Indian fights at Baby Head Mountain, Llano county, and Bell Mountain, Gillespie county, and in the latter received a painful thigh wound.

In 1885 William Denison, wife and three children moved to Wallace Creek, where he had bought land. He erected his home about one mile down stream from the head waters of Wallace Creek. Here he engaged in farming and cattle raising. On March 10th, 1902, Bill Denison passed over the Great Divide. His body rests in the Wallace Creek Cemetery.

The children, in the order of their ages, are: Sallie Denison, Robert Denison, Julia Denison, who married Will Martin, son of an old-timer of Wallace Creek. At this time (1949), the Will Martins own a nice home, good black land farm and pasture land on Wallace Creek.

JAMES ALBERT KING, a native of Rutherford county. North Carolina, was born in 1837. It appears that his parents moved to Marshall county, Alabama, in the 1850's, and here it was that the young James King and Miss Mary M. Albert met, and December, 1859, were united in marriage.

In 1871 they came to San Saba county, Texas, and settled in San Saba town, but a little later moved to Wallace Creek, and there lived a number of years. The record shows that James King was Tax Assessor for San Saba county in 1878-1881. He was a Methodist Circuit Rider by calling and farmer-livestock man by choice. He rode horseback to meet his appointments on his circuit, carrying a Bible and an old time Methodist hymn book in his saddle bags. On the frontier in those days a church organ did not exist. The minister read, from the pulpit, the hymns to be sung. one stanza at a time, announced whether it was long meter. short meter or common meter; this was called "lining it." The entire congregation joined in singing the stanza, then the minister read another stanza and the singing was continued, and so on till the entire hymn was finished. At that time communities on the frontier thought that they were doing very well if they had a comfortable small one room house to hold all religious services in, for public gatherings, usually not of a festive order, and for day school, and a place to hold all public elections.

Some doctors seem to be favored above all others by the people to preside at child birth, so some ministers of the Gospel are favored by the people to preside at marriages and funerals. James King was one of these favored ones. Many old time couples of West Texas had their marriage bonds sealed by Brother King; such as for example: R. G. (Dick) Godfrey and Sarah Tippen, Jan. 31, 1881. She was Squire John Tippen of Wallace Creek daughter. M. L. Banister and V. R. Daniels, Feb. 24, 1881, J. C. Rainey and Norah Hartman, Feb. 23, 1881. W. H. Gibbons and Mary B. Taylor, Oct. 27, 1881. L. E. Davenport and S. M. Taylor, Dec. 1, 1881. A. M. Harris and M. M. Taff, Jan. 5, 1882. R. H. Taylor and Cora J. Davenport, Feb. 15, 1882. R. T. Rountree and Ann E. Taylor, Feb. 16, 1882. William Cheny and Mrs. Mary E. Howard, May 8, 1882. Sam H. Henderson and M. E. Owen, Jan. 11, 1883. S. L. Kirkpatrick and Ann

Fleming, April 14, 1883. T. B. Thaxton and Sarah J. Parker, March 4, 1885.

The following incident we do not vouch for, but believe it is true. His son, Albert King, when asked about it, said that he had not heard of it before, but had no doubt but it was true.

A certain community in Llano county was included in James King's circuit in the 1870's. Several of its young men had the reputation of being rowdies and bullies — pretty tough customers. School teachers rarely stayed on the job longer than a month on account of their mean tricks, such as cutting in two his saddle girths, shaving his saddle horse's tail and many other despicable doings. At church services they stomped in, rattling their big Mexican spurs, and sometimes pulled off a fake fight at the church door entrance. Brother King had been warned about these rowdies but said that as he had been sent by the Lord to preach the Gospel that he expected to carry out the Lord's command to the best of his ability.

Arriving at the home of a brother member of the Methodist Church late one Saturday afternoon, his saddle horse was cared for and he invited to the home for the night and following Sunday. This home was near the church building, and a short time before the services should begin, they walked to the church. Brother King carried his saddle bags, and set them down on the floor behind the pulpit. after taking out his Bible and hymn book. Services had started when in marched the rowdies, setting down their heels on the floor at each step unnecessarily hard, and as they wore big Mexican spurs the stomping on the floor set the spur rowels jangling, so with the stomping and spur jangling, the preacher's voice was completely drowned out. The rowdies seated themselves and the preacher resumed the services, but for only a few minutes, then the rowdy bunch arose as one man and stomped their way outside. If anyone thought that was the end of it he was sadly mistaken, for directly in they marched, stomping as they walked as before. After they were seated the second time Brother King did not immediately resume his regular services, but reached down and lifted his saddle bags, opened the flap and took out his old Colt pistol and laid it on the

top of the pulpit, then speaking to one of the church members, asked him to shut the door, next looking straight at the rowdies, he said: "I have been invited to preach at this place tonight, and God helping me I am going to do it. If you young men will behave yourselves and want to remain in the house I shall be glad to have you, otherwise now is the time for you to get out and stay out." No one moved and throughout the services perfect order was had. After services the leader of the tough young men came to Brother King, begging his pardon, and assured the Brother that this thing would not occur again. Afterwards these tough young men became Brother King's good friends.

MARY M. ALBERT-KING: Wife of the Rev. James King, was a native daughter of Marshall county, Alabama.

To James Albert King and Mary M. King were born six children, three of whom died in infancy, and the others are: Elizabeth King, who married W. H. Woods (Bud Woods), lives in Alamogorda, N. M.; William A. King of San Antonio, Texas, was City Health Physician of that city for twenty years, and now past three score and ten years of age, is still actively engaged in the practice of medicine; James Albert King, deceased, was with the Texas Unemployment Compensation Commission at Austin, Texas, up to the time of his death.

Albert King was a man of considerable talent when it came to composition and verse. In another part of this volume will be found some lengthy extracts from his writings; in the Introduction, for example. Also the poem about that wonderful longhorn steer, "OLD BOZE."

REV. JOSEPH PARKER: Was born November 10, 1816, in South Carolina, and departed this life March 4, 1882, at his home on Wallace Creek, San Saba, Texas. He was a Methodist Circuit Rider. For a number of years he preached the Gospel at Wallace Creek and Rock Shoales. Well does this writer remember when Brother Parker use to visit in our parental home. Invariably his advice to us children was, "Be good and mind your Pa and Ma." He was a good man; what higher praise can one give?

The wife, Eleanor P. Parker, was born September 30,

1831, in South Carolina, and departed this life June 3, 1911, being 80 years of age. Both rest in Wallace Creek Cemetery.

Children born to Joseph and Eleanor Parker are: M. M. Parker, who married Thos. Parham; Sarah Jane Parker, who married Thos. Thaxton.

The Parkers came to Wallace Creek in 1871.

- J. FRANK COMER was born in Hunt county, Texas, January 6, 1868, deceased January 25, 1941, in San Saba county, Texas. He came to Wallace Creek, San Saba county, Texas, with his grandparents, Rev. Joseph and Mrs. Parker, June the 5th, 1871.
- J. Frank Comer and Fannie Duncan were united in marriage and to this union were born three children, namely, Joe Comer, who married Miss Gertie Sullivan; they live in San Saba; Johnnie Comer, who when about grown, had the misfortune to be killed by a horse; Cleone Comer, who married Riley Kuykendall, and lives in San Saba, Texas.

The Frank Comer family lived always on Wallace Creek, excepting three years, which they spent in New Mexico. The entire family were of the Methodist persuasion. Mrs. Fannie Comer is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bige Duncan, natives of Georgia. Mrs. Duncan died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Fannie Comer, on Wallace Creek at the unusual age of one hundred and five years. The body of Frank Comer rests in Wallace Creek Cemetery, and his wife, Fannie Comer, still survives and lives in San Saba, Texas.

WILLIAM AYERS: Was born in Mississippi in 1851, and his parents were natives of Georgia.

Wife: BARAH J. AYERS, was a native Texan, but her parents were natives of Georgia. No data available as to when the Ayers family came to Wallace Creek, or as to when they left there, but Tom Kinkaid, an early settler of Wallace Creek, says that the Ayers family were there in 1880.

Children: Nancy Ayers, born in 1873; Louis Ayers, born in 1875; Alexander Ayers, born in 1876; John Ayers, born in 1880.

THOMAS Y. PARHAM: A native of Virginia, and born there in 1851, and died at his home on Wallace Creek, Jan. 30, 1933. He was a farmer by occupation, but built many stone chimneys over San Saba county.

Wife: MARY M. PARKER-PARHAM, a native of South Carolina, was daughter of the well known Rev. Joseph Parker, a pioneer Methodist preacher of Wallace Creek.

Children: Ida Parham, Mattie Parham, Birdie Parham, Nell Parham, married Will Linn.

Tom and Mary Parham are deceased and buried in Wallace Creek Cemetery.

ROBERT G. BINION: A native son of Arkansas, born in 1842, a farmer by occupation. He and wife came to Wallace Creek, San Saba county, Texas, in the early 1870's. He specialized in cotton raising, which grew to perfection in that rich black valley land of Wallace Creek.

The wife: AMANDA BINION, was born in 1846 in Arkansas. Robert and Amanda Binion had born to them two children: Louisa Binion, born in 1866, before the Binions came to Wallace Creek. Amanda Olga Binion, born in 1876, on Wallace Creek, and, of course, a native of San Saba county, Texas. The Harkeyville Public School was organized in 1879 and R. Binion is listed along with J. R. Bomar and Thomas Elton as Trustees for it.

WILLIAM GODFREY: Was born in Talapoosa county, Mississippi, September 27, 1848. He married Victoria Lawless December 12, 1867. They came to Milam county, Texas, in 1871, stopping only a short time, and then on to Wallace Creek, San Saba county, Texas. Here he farmed some of Wallace Creek's fine black land and raised cattle a few years. Later he moved to San Saba and engaged in the mercantile business. They were members of the Methodist Church, and he a Mason and Odd Fellow. In 1878 Wallace Creek and six other communities of San Saba county organized public schools. These schools had three Trustees. The Trustees of this, the first public school of Wallace

Creek, were: W. M. Godfrey, O. B. Fleming and J. A. Taylor.

Mrs. Godfrey was Victoria Lawless, born in Alabama January 18, 1846.

To William and Victoria Lawless-Godfrey were born nine children. Nannie Godfrey, who married George Dunigan; Ben Godfrey; Maymie Godfrey, who married A. Stroble; Norah Godfrey, died in infancy; Albert Godfrey, died in infancy; Nannie Godfrey, who married Newt Estep; Tim Godfrey; Clay Godfrey; Georgia Godfrey, who married Charles Spannell.

Victoria Lawless-Godfrey died — — and rests in San Saba Cemetery. William Godfrey survived his wife — — died in — — and buried in San Saba Cemetery.

JOE W. NEEPER: Was born October 16, 1845, in Pierce City, Missouri. At the age of sixteen years he enlisted in the Confederate Army, and served four years under General Price. After the Civil War ended Joe Neeper was a Cavalry man with Shelby in Mexico: soon afterwards the company was disbanded. Although Joe Neeper saw four years of service in the war between the States, and frontier service, he came out whole and without any wounds. Warfare over, Joe Neeper got back to his favorite work, that of farming, and he was a good one, too, Corn and cotton dominated all other farm products in his section of the country at that time. Joe Neeper excelled in the production of both. We are speaking of the time previous to the advent of the boll weevil in Central Texas. Then Joe Neeper and others raised one and even more than two bales of cotton per acre on irrigated land in the San Saba river valley. \$50.00 a bale was a standard price for cotton, cotton seeds were worthless, cotton gins had a good sized job disposing of them in order to have room around the gin.

Joe Neeper and Mary Elizabeth Rutledge-Neeper were married January 16, 1870, at Aurora, Missouri. In 1875 the Neeper family, then there were but two children, left Pierce City, bound for Texas, and that same year they arrived at Wallace Creek, San Saba county, Texas, and settled on the William P. Sloan place, near the mouth of Wallace Creek. The family lived here two years and moved up the creek

to the Thomas B. Thaxton place, where Joe Neeper farmed for nine years a goodly acreage of that rich black land, the last two years of which were so drouthy but that little was made, so Mr. Neeper decided to try his luck on irrigated land, and in the fall of 1886 moved to the John E. Sloan irrigated farm on the San Saba river in the Rock Shoales (now Sloan) community. Here he farmed for two years very successfully, and then an irrigated farm of larger acreage being available nearby, he moved to the George Baker farm on Harvey Creek. The Baker farm was irrigated from springs by gravity, as was the John Sloan farm. After a few years spent raising corn and cotton on the Baker farm, Joe Neeper found a place much to his liking, also in the Rock Shoales community, irrigated by damed up springs. This was the James E. Henderson homestead old place, and before Henderson, the Johnson Rose home from 1860-1868. Indeed Mr. Rose was the first to improve this land, building a double log house for a dwelling and putting 70 acres in a high state of cultivation. James Henderson died in 1883 and his children divided his irrigated farm into equal shares among themselves. Excepting Mrs. Emma Sloan and Mrs. Alice Sloan, all the Henderson children owned large ranches in West Texas and lived on them. Their small farms from their father's estate were for lease or rent. The old Henderson home had been assigned to William Henderson, the youngest child, and this is the place that the Joe Neeper family moved to about 1890. This good land vielded about 50 or 60 bushels of corn to the acre and from one to two bales of cotton to the acre, and sweet potatoes turned out like Carter's oats-more than was room on the ground to stack them. Most families picked their own cotton, sometimes they had help in picking from neighbors, never crews of Mexican pickers, as now days. January. February and even March of next year, in irrigated fields, lots of cotton unpicked. This writer has seen what would be considered today a good crop of cotton plowed under, all because it could not be picked in time.

On March 24, 1899, the Neeper family were in the cotton patch picking cotton left over from the previous year, someone looked towards the house and saw a big blaze which proved to be their home on fire. Too late, nothing

could be done, not only the house but all its contents were quickly consumed by the fire. As to how the fire started no one ever knew.

Joe and Mary Elizabeth Neeper had born to them nine children, six of whom (1946) are still living. The children: Ella Neeper-Miller lives at San Angelo, Texas. She and Joe Miller were married Oct. 29, 1899. Annie and Lulu Neeper both died in early womanhood. Elmer Neeper married Miss Flossie Lewis and lives on a place owned by him and his sister, Ola Neeper, near Richland Springs, Texas. Elmer was a champion cotton picker, picking all the way from 500 pounds to near 700 pounds a day. Lee Neeper married Miss Annie Stuart of Sidney, Texas, and lives at Aledo, Texas. Will Neeper married Miss Velma Harkey Aug. 16, 1915. Ernest Neeper (Bun) married Miss Dacus Dec. 16, 1916. Ola Neeper is youngest child, and co-owner of Neeper farm near Richland Springs, San Saba county. Her home is with brother, Elmer, on the Neeper farm.

Joe Neeper had been a lodge member of the I.O.O.F. for a good many years, and was buried by his fellow members with their burial rites. He was sixty-five years, two months and twelve days old at death. Mary Elizabeth Rutledge-Neeper survived her husband till Oct. 9, 1935, and nearing eighty years of age, passed to her reward at the home of her son, Elmer Neeper. She rests by the side of her husband in City Cemetery, San Saba, Texas.

REV. JAMES POLK BURKE was born in Georgia, Sept. 22, 1845, of a noted family of Revolutionary War fame, whose forebears came from Ireland and England. He passed to his reward July 2, 1927, at the ripe age of eighty-two years. The body was laid to rest in the Kuykendall Cemetery near Cherokee, Texas.

His parents, the John Burkes, left Virginia and settled in Georgia a few years before the Civil War, and soon after that bloody conflict ended they moved to Alabama. While the John Burkes lived in Georgia they owned a large plantation and a number of slaves. Now that the slaves were freed, and John Burke not being prepared to work his Georgia plantation, sold it and, as has been said before, moved to Alabama. In the South many plantation

owners, who depended on slave labor to work them, after the war, were unable to operate their farms, because the war had left the whole country almost bankrupt. No money, no credit, and many of them had not been reared to work. Some of the more sturdy accepted the inevitable, sold their plantations for what they could get and moved west, often to that land of promise, Texas.

At the youthful age of sixteen Polk Burke ran away from home and joined the Confederate Army. He entered the army as a private and at the end was Lieutenant Colonel. Under General Robert E. Lee he fought in the battle of Look-Out Mountain, and in 1863 at Vicksburg. Strange to say, though he was engaged in more than one major battle and many skirmishes, he never received a scratch.

About 1875 he professed Christ and united with the Mis-

sionary Baptist Church.

January 11, 1877, at Fayetteville, Alabama, he and Miss Alice Cornelia Hitchcock were united in marriage, the marriage ceremony being solemnized at the home of her parents, Senator and Mrs. Amos Hitchcock, formerly of Brinfield, Massachusetts.

Polk Burke had been preparing himself for the Gospel ministry for some time, and at the age of about thirty years was ordained by the Missionary Baptist Church a

Minister of the Gospel.

In 1879 he and family came to Texas, settling on Wallace Creek, San Saba county. In 1889 he continued missionary activities and served as pastor at San Saba, McMillin, China Creek, Rock Shoales (now Sloan), Pontotoc, Wallace Creek and Cherokee. Sometimes when on his way to China Creek or McMillin appointments he would come in contact with the "Mob," then very active. He would be held up for a time, questioned and warned to take a different route next time.

In 1901 he moved to Cherokee, buying the Bud Kuy-kendall place for home. This move was to send his children to that splendid school of Professor Behrns, called West Texas and Business Normal. Polk Burke was a Mason, he never held public office, was pastor at Cherokee and Pontotoc for twenty years, also preaching at many country churches in Llano, Mason, Burnet and San Saba counties.

His ministerial work extended from about 1875 to 1927. More than a half century pleading with sinners to turn from their evil ways, and be reconciled to God.

This writer remembers with much pleasure Brother Burke's smiling face and kindly persuading voice when he occupied the pulpit in the old Rock Shoales Church, urging us to be good and thereby happy. He was often a welcome, pleasant visitor in my father's, the late T. A. Sloan, home.

The wife, Alice Cornelia Hitchcock-Burke, was born in Taladago county, Alabama, July 6, 1860, deceased February 29, 1936, and buried at Kuykendall Cemetery, near Cherokee, Texas. Her parents came over from England in Colonial days. They came from Massachusetts to Alabama a short time before the Civil War. The father was a Senator from Massachusetts and later a Representative from Alabama, and wrote poetry as a hobby. The only surviving member of her immediate family (1947) is Thomas Hitchcock of Birmingham, Alabama, a retired architect and poet, whose son, Roy Hitchcock, is architect for the University of Georgia as well as architect for that state, and is listed in "Who's Who in Architect."

Alice Cornelia Hitchcock-Burke embraced Christ at a very early age in life, and joined the Methodist Church. After marriage to Polk Burke, she changed to her husband's church and was an active, consistent member for over fifty years.

Polk and Alice Burke had born to them seven children, of whom six (1946) survive. In order of their birth they are: Marvin Burke, a Cherokee farmer and Deacon in the Baptist Church; Mrs. J. E. Cox, Miles, Texas; Graves Burke, veteran of First World War and Postmaster at Cherokee, Texas, for over twenty-five years; Mrs. C. H. Dickens, Burnet, Texas; Mrs. Delia Boney, Cherokee, Texas; Miss Sallie Mae Burke, Cherokee, Texas, graduate of Hardin-Baylor of Belton, Texas, with a B. A. degree, and who received an honor graduate scholarship from Baylor University and M. A. degree with honors from there in 1938. Dorothy B. Burke is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Graves Burke, and a graduate of Cherokee High School and Southwestern State Teacher's College of San Marcos, 1943, and is now a dietitian at the University of Houston, Texas.

JAMES DANIEL JOHNSON was born 18— at Shreveport, Louisiana. The wife, Mrs. J. D. Johnson, was born at Flat Rock, Georgia, and came to Texas with her uncle, Dr. J. B. Wright.

James Daniel Johnson and his wife were married at Grey Rock, Texas, and came to Wallace Creek in 1891, lived there six years and then moved to Locker, Texas.

This couple had born to them ten children, namely: W. E. Johnson, lives at Fairview, San Saba county, Texas; Blanche Johnson lives at Overton, Texas; G. D. Johnson lives at Spring Creek; J. E. Johnson lives at Rotan, Texas; Harvey Johnson, deceased 1890; J. S. Johnson, deceased 1892; Lena Johnson, deceased 1900; Mrs. C. C. Johnson-Smith lives at Overton, Texas; Mrs. W. E. Johnson-Parker lives at Rotan, Texas; Mrs. R. A. Johnson-Taylor lives at Locker, Texas. There are twenty grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren.

WALLACE E. TURNER was born July 1, 1846, near the town of Bastrop, Bastrop county, Texas. He was the youngest son of Dr. and Mrs. Turner.

At the age of seventeen years Wallace Turner volunteered for service in the Confederate Army. He fought and starved for four long years. There were four Turner brothers in the Confederate Army, the oldest one was killed in battle and buried on the battlefield, the others returned home from war unscathed except one, who received a leg wound.

Wallace Turner never joined a church, but his belief was as his fathers, the Primitive Baptist Church. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge.

September 16, 1869, he and Miss Lucy Ann Wright were united in marriage in Bastrop county, Texas. He was in his twenty-third year and she in her twenty-first. She was the daughter of Austin Wright and was born in Fannin county, Texas, July 25, 1848; she had two brothers but no sister, two half-brothers and one half-sister, whose family name was Kelly. Death came to her at her home on Wallace Creek June 18, 1901, and she was buried at Wallace Creek Cemetery.

Wallace Turner sold his place on Wallace Creek and

lived with his children, turn about. Deceased — — — and buried in Wallace Creek Cemetery.

Children born to Wallace and Lucy Ann Wright-Turner were: Austin Legrand Turner, born December 8, 1870, deceased Mary 12, 1872; Walter Hugh Turner, born February 4, 1872; Annie Eliza Turner, born September 29, 1873; Margaret Sophronie Turner, born June 25, 1876; Wallace Edwin Turner, born March 29, 1878, who married Alice Sloan, daughter of William and Lucindy Sloan; Calvin Washington Turner, born May 14, 1880; Olene and John Turner (twins), born April 4, 1883, John died same day he was born, Olene died January 18, 1884; Catholene Turner, born July 16, 1885, who married Buck Joiner, son of Henry and Nancy Ann Joiner; Carl Allen Turner, born April 7, 1890.

WILLIAM EDWARD GRAHAM AND IDELA CLINE-GRAHAM

Billie Graham and wife were natives of Tennessee and came to Texas at an early day, the exact year we do not know, but they settled on the Bill Sloan place on Wallace Creek in 1890, and farmed several acres of that good black Wallace Creek valley land in corn and cotton.

Soon after the 1898 flood in the San Saba river we find the Billie Graham family living on the T. A. Sloan irrigated farm on the San Saba river, in the Rock Shoales (now Sloan) community. Here he continued to raise the staple crops of cotton and corn, and in the fall of the year was a stand-by for some who made the production of ribbon cane syrup a specialty on this same irrigated farm. Perhaps John Ransom was the largest producer of this product. His production usually was about 2,000 gallons of syrup per season. Two names stand out prominently as champion makers of this ribbon cane syrup. They are A. J. Wash of Richland Springs and Jesse Newby of the Sloan irrigated farm.

William Edward Graham was a member of the Baptist Church and the wife a member of the Church of Christ.

They had born to them 10 children, namely:

(1) Lula May Graham, married Roy Rankins first; after his death, John Meyers.

(2) Lela Lee Graham, married Louie Myers.

(3) John Wesley Graham, married Martha Myers.

(4) Oscar Columbus Graham, died in youth.(5) Willie Edna Graham, married Will Myers.

(6) Bessie Marie Graham, married Richard Myers.

(7) Robert Nelson Graham, celabate.

(8) Jeff Davis Graham, married Eula Rich.

(9) Newman Adolfus Graham, married — — Rich.

(10) Mary Agnes Graham, married John Anderson.

After leaving the Rock Shoales community, William Graham settled in "The Sand," a few miles north of Richland Springs. Here in August, 1920, he deceased and was buried in Richland Springs Cemetery. His wife survived him till March 15, 1949; she rests by the side of her husband.

John Wesley Graham served in the American Army during World War No. 1, being overseas about three years. He never received a wound nor was he ever promoted, but received an honorable discharge.

GEORGE CAMPBELL AND SUSAN THAXTON-CAMPBELL

George Washington Campbell was born March 20, 1849, near Independence, Missouri, brought up on a farm and followed it as an occupation all of his life. About 1872 he came to Travis county, Texas, remained one year, returned to Missouri, married Susan Thaxton, and in 1875 moved to Wallace Creek, San Saba county, Texas, bought a tract of Wallace Creek valley land and built his home on it.

Susan Thaxton-Campbell was born in Missouri March 23, 1853, deceased December 3, 1890, buried in Wallace Creek Cemetery. George and Susan Campbell had born to them children as follows: 1. William Campbell; 2. James Campbell; 3. Albert Campbell; 4. Joe Campbell; 5. Sallie Campbell: 6. Hudson Campbell, who died in youth.

George and Susan Campbell were devout Christians of the Cumberland Presbyterian faith. They were untiring in their work for the Master's cause. In 1890 the great white plague took Susan Campbell. January 7, 1892, George Campbell married his second wife, Miss Mary Margaret

Sloan, daughter of pioneer Dr. Allen Sloan and Nancy Sloan. The wife, Mary Sloan-Campbell, was born March 4, 1847, in Tishomingo county, Miss., on a cotton plantation worked by slave labor, came to Rusk county, Texas, 1848, and settled in San Saba county in 1855.

George and Mary Campbell had no children born to them. Mrs. Campbell had much experience in the caring for and rearing children. Her first experience was with her deceased sister's two boys, Pat and Tom Murray, then her baby sister deceased, Sarah Woods, leaving six motherless small children: Vallie, Archie, Roy, Joe and Ola, which Mrs. Campbell cared for during their early years. After their father's, De Woods, death, the three oldest Woods children lived with their Uncle Tom and Aunt Emma Sloan at Rock Shoales, afterwards called Sloan community.

April 2, 1928, death claimed George Campbell. Mary Campbell survived her husband till March 23, 1937. Both

rest in the Wallace Creek Cemetery.

George Campbell's sketch would be incomplete if camp meetings were not mentioned in it. The old time camp meeting was in its heyday about the same time that George Campbell was in the prime of his manhood. When I think of camp meetings the names of three men bob up, and stand out, far out beyond any other, they are: "Uncle" Bob Hart of Rock Shoales (now Sloan), George Campbell of Wallace Creek and "Brother" Mark Oliver of Harmony Ridge. It was in the 1880's and 1890's that camp meetings were considered a big event of our lives; this was especially true amongst the church members and their families. It was like the old farmer said about the moon when speaking about planting his crops, "I plant in the moon, because the moon is part of it." We went to camp meetings because camp meetings were a part of it—an important part. There were three communities in San Saba county that worked hand in hand, so far as religious matters were concerned. This was very noticeable at camp meetings.

The Brownwood Cumberland Presbyterian Presbytery, in session, named Rock Shoales as the meeting place for their next Presbytery. The delegates from Rock Shoales congregation said that they would build a brush arbor and clean off the ground for the camp meeting that was pro-

posed to be held in connection with Presbytery. Time set for camp meeting to start was at night the second Wednesday of July, with a prayer meeting. On Sunday before the second Wednesday in July the Rock Shoales congregation met and discussed the proposition of cleaning up the ground and building a brush arbor in which to hold Presbytery and the camp meeting. Time was short. Monday following was set to start the job. Early Monday morning everyone was at the appointed place and time, ready and waiting for instructions to begin work. Previously instructions had been given as to tools needed and wagons for hauling brush and poles and forks for the arbor. A crew was named to clean up the camp ground, one to dig post holes and set forks, which were to support the arbor top. Also a crew to cut and haul poles and forks and brush. By the noon hour considerable progress had been made on the arbor. One hour was taken for the noon lunch and for rest. Everyone had brought lunch from home wrapped in a newspaper. Brother Bob Hart had brought along his big black camp coffee pot, which he now filled with water and placed on a quick fire to make a pot of black coffee.

Sundown found the camp ground cleaned up and the brush arbor completed, but no straw or seats or torches to

light up the grounds and arbor.

Tuesday a man was sent to San Saba to get tinner, Tom Gray, to make torches and borrow some long boxing planks from the lumber yard for seats; during the day men had got a load of clean straw to place on the ground under the arbor and several big logs for supports of the boxing planks for seats. By mid-afternoon everything was in

readiness for the camp meeting.

Wednesday afternoon Mark Oliver and family, Polk Oliver and family of Harmony Ridge; George Campbell and family, Captain Ledbetter and family of Wallace Creek; Dave Hubbard and family of Simpson Creek were all in camps at Rock Shoales camp meeting place. Also preachers, Rev. John Hudson, Rev. Strayhorn of Williamson county; Rev. Coly Lockett, Rev. Buck Bomar, Rev. W. A. Hodge, Rev. W. M. Speegle, Rev. J. D. Speegle, Rev. Stephen Lewis, Rev. J. B. Atkinson and Rev. Jim Moore of Llano had arrived on the camp meeting ground.

For the first two or three days daylight was taken up with the business of Presbytery and preaching at night. Presbytery over the camp meeting began in earnest, so by the middle of the week great interest was being taken. sinners were being waked up, every night the arbor was full to capacity, at nights young men and young women for miles around came horseback. Some of those earnest old Brothers from the pulpit could paint the fires of hell so vivid, so eminent that sinners, in droves, marched up to the Mourners' Bench, and in no timid voice, asked the preacher to please tell him if there was any way for him to escape that awful place called hell. The penitents, after conversion, acted in different ways. I suppose according to their temperament. One would have a heavenly smile on his face and say that he loved everybody, but be quiet about it, another would jump to his feet, want to shake hands and embrace everybody, especially the girls, still another would jump up, holler and sing and talk excitedly. I knew one young man who when these religious excitements were on that would get down on the straw covered ground flat on his back, groan and raise first one hand and then the other, and two strong men could not hold the hand from being raised, and his eyes would have a glazed appearance. During all this goings on men and women would stand in groups singing songs that were calculated to stir the feelings of the penitents.

The different religious denominations have certain well defined directions as to the manner baptism is administered. The Cumberland Presbyterian Church is liberal in that it allows the one to be baptized to (if he so chooses) specify the manner of his baptism. An example: During the camp meeting, just mentioned, a young preacher, Jim Moore, decided that immersion was the only true way for a Christian to be baptized and prevailed on a preacher at this meeting to baptize him in that manner. Myself and some other kids of similar age heard of the matter, and never having seen baptism administered by immersion were very curious to see it, so we circulated about the grounds asking the people if it was an actual fact and if anyone could tell us who was it. The very first man we met and questioned said, "I am the man." It was the Rev. Jim

Moore, though we did not know his name up to that time. At two P. M. a large crowd gathered at the first rock shoal on the San Saba river. A preacher holding a staff waded out into the water, feeling with his staff ahead of each step; when about waist deep in water, he directed Mr. Moore to come to him, then with one hand behind the head or neck and the other supporting his waist at the back, using the baptismal words, Moore was dipped under the water.

At the meeting many young people changed their way of living and the church received a large increase in membership.

DANIEL AND MERCY WHEELER

Daniel and Mercy Wheeler came to Texas from New York State, but as to whether they were natives of the Empire State or not, is not known. They were living on Wallace Creek in 1884 but as to just when they first arrived is not now known. People who remember them relate that they had considerable massive furniture with them when on arrival at Wallace Creek.

Daniel Wheeler purchased and improved a small tract of land on Wallace Creek, which is now, 1956, owned by B. D. Harkey.

Born to Daniel and Mercy Wheeler were three children, all of which were born before the Wheeler family came to Wallace Creek. The children:

- (1) Elmyra Wheeler.
- (2) Benjamin D. Wheeler.
- (3) Charles Wheeler.

The two last named never married, Elmyra married a man by name — Robbins, or it may be that there were four children and the one I have named married Mr. Robbins. Charles was feeble minded but harmless. Two of the children died and the place was inherited by the one that married — Robbins, and they sold out to Jake Dufner and left the county.

Daniel Wheeler was born Aug. 15, 1809, and deceased Oct. 26, 1884, at his home on Wallace Creek. The wife, Mercy Wheeler, was born Oct. 16, 1819, and deceased Nov. 11,

1886, at home on Wallace Creek. They both are at rest in the Wallace Creek Cemetery, San Saba county, Texas.

THOMAS HAWKINS was born November 1, 1845, at Utica, New York. At an early age, with his parents, Tom Hawkins came to Illinois and followed farming and livestock raising as a livelihood. July 4, 1869, he and Louisa Ernest of Ohio were united in the holy bonds of wedlock at Belvedere, Illinois. In 1879 he and family came to Texas and settled on Wallace Creek. He and sons farmed and raised livestock and operated a horse power thresher, going from farm to farm and threshing the people's grain, sometimes for toll and sometimes for a cash payment per bushel threshed.

Children born to Thomas and Louisa Ernest-Hawkins were eleven in number, namely: Wallace Hawkins, who married Emma Harkey, Edward Hawkins, who married — — Johnson; Frank Hawkins, who married — — Johnson; William Hawkins; Mrs. Maggie Hawkins-Roberds; Mrs. Nellie Hawkins-Moore; Mrs. Minnie Hawkins-Nash; Alfred Hawkins; James Hawkins.

Louisa Hawkins passed to her reward November 22, 1909, and rests in the Wallace Creek Cemetery. At the turn of the century one of the Hawkins sons bought a place near Eden, Texas, and there he and family made their home. After Louisa Hawkins' death Tom Hawkins went to live with his son near Eden, Concho county, Texas, and there March 3, 1930, he gave up the burdens of life and was buried at Eden. Thomas and Louisa Hawkins have a number of descendants living in San Saba county, all of which are good and respected citizens of the commonwealth.

JAMES KINKAID was native to Kentucky. His birthday was in 1831, and in the early 1850's he came to Arkansas, and engaged in farming and stock raising. He and Miss Jane Yates became acquainted, then good friends, friendship ripening into love and culminating in marriage August 12, 1858.

Jane Yates-Kinkaid was born in Arkansas in 1834. She was a member of a once wealthy slave holding landed family. The Civil War robbed it of its slaves, and adverse

conditions during reconstruction days reduced the family's financial holdings very largely.

Born to James Kinkaid and Jane Yates-Kinkaid were four children, namely: Josephine Kinkaid, who married S. S. (Toad) Chamberlain, who had come to Wallace Creek from Williamson county, Texas, in 1879; Pliny Kinkaid was never married; Mattie Kinkaid, who married James Tippen, a son of a pioneer family of Wallace Creek, San Saba county, and a native of that county himself, they moved to Mills county in early 1900's; Thomas Kinkaid, known always as "Tommie," married — — Hazledine, he is now deceased.

In 1880 James Kinkaid and family landed on Wallace Creek, San Saba county, Texas. Here he engaged in farming and livestock raising. He and son, Tommie, availed themselves of whatever work on the outside that presented itself to them; also the daughters did not hesitate to come forward and lend a hand to better the finances of the family. They picked lots of that fine cotton that grew on the Thomas Sloan irrigated farm on the San Saba river, in the Rock Shoales community—this before the boll weevil came.

James Kinkaid was a very pronounced character, strictly honest and uncompromising to any and all sorts of evil doing. He was a hard worker, economical and thrifty, slowly he accumulated considerable grazing land and cattle. The Cumberland Presbyterian Church was his and the family's choice.

Jane Yates-Kinkaid deceased at home on Wallace Creek in 1887. The husband, James Kinkaid, survived till 1917, and then passed to his reward. Husband and wife rest in Wallace Creek Cemetery.

WILLIAM ENOCH MARTIN AND JULIA ANN DENISTON-MARTIN

William (Will) Enoch Martin, son of Joseph and Ola Thaxton-Martin, a native of Wallace Creek, San Saba county, Texas. Attended the public school at Wallace Creek, did farm work and had good training in ranch work. He succeeded to the ownership of the Joe H. Martin (his father)

home place in the Wallace Creek valley by inheritance and purchase from the other heirs.

He and Miss Julia Deniston, daughter of neighbor, William Deniston, formerly of Llano county, were united in marriage. To this union were born five children, namely:

- (1) Eula Sarah Martin.
- (2) Chris Milyne Martin.
- (3) Edith Bernice Martin.
- (4) Joe Enoch Martin, died in infancy.
- (5) Willie Bob Martin.

In August, 1949, William and Julia Martin celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary at home on Wallace Creek with a huge outdoor barbecue. The barbecued meat, together with many other good things to eat, was served on the beautiful lawn in front of their home. Report has it that about 300 guests were served at this celebration. They were relatives and friends from far and near. A half-sister from Florida was present. This good day in March, 1957, Will and Julia Martin live at and operate their home place.

URIAL THOMAS (Buck) CHAMBERLAIN first saw the light of day at Manor in Travis county, Texas, December 6, 1849. At the early age of seventeen years he embraced the Christian faith and joined the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

On May the 13, 1868, he led Miss Frances (Fannie) Williamson of Williamson county, Texas, to the altar and they said the words after the preacher that made them husband and wife. U. T. Chamberlain was exactly one week older than was his wife. Her birth year was December 13, 1849. As a very young man "Buck" Chamberlain served as a peace officer under Captain Sam Strayhorn of Williamson county, Texas.

To Urial Thomas and Frances Williamson-Chamberlain were born seven children, namely: Alta Chamberlain, who married Alex Conway of Liberty Hill, Texas; Henry Chamberlain, who married Miss Gertrude Hawkins, daughter of Sheriff Jack Hawkins, and they live at Phoenix, Arizona; J. D. (Keat) Chamberlain, who married Miss Maude Brewer, and they live at Lometa, Texas; Hollis Chamberlain.

who married Jack Sweeny of Arizona; J. Frank Chamberlain, who married Miss Annie Taylor of Richland Springs, and they live on Sloan Sisters' ranch, Sloan community, San Saba county, Texas. Lives now at Brownwood. Frank carried the U. S. mail for about twenty years; Bertha Chamberlain, who married Conway Maxwell of Ft. Worth, Texas, she deceased; Mary Chamberlain was never married, and lived at the old parental home at San Saba, Texas. Is deceased.

A short review of Buck Chamberlain's more than forty years as peace officer is now in order, and we propose to give the reader a short and true one. In 1887 S. B. Howard was High Sheriff of San Saba county, Texas, and Buck Chamberlain qualified as his Deputy. For some years certain lawless practices had obtained over the county, more especially in the northern part. Fence cutting, which was pretty generally practiced not only over San Saba county but over most of central and west Texas, seemed a contributing factor to bad state of affairs. Many cattle were stolen and never recovered, many farmers turning their calves out of the milk pen to graze were uncertain as to whether they would ever see them again or not. stealing was worse now than when the red Indian used to come in moonlight nights and steal the horses of our pioneer settlers. To make a bad matter worse, though men were indicted and brought to trial, no convictions were had. The situation grew worse and worse. History shows that when such conditions prevail that a few leading men take the law into their own hands, and meet out summary justice; this is exactly what happened here — the San Saba mob was born. Someone has asked the question, "Is a mob ever justified?" We will not discuss this question. During the early days of the mob's existence, no doubt they meted out justice to some criminals whom the law had been unable to reach. But alas it soon went beyond its original purpose. Innocent men were waylaid and shot to death or hanged to a limb, some were captured and after many dire threats warned to leave the country by a certain date or take the consequences. About this time the Anti-Mob was organized and by urgent representations the State Rangers were brought to the county. Jack Hawkins was Sheriff at this

time, 1896, and the Rangers were encamped on James Lindsay's farm on the Colorado river in the northern part of San Saba county, Captain John L. Sullivan had charge of the Rangers, and in addition to being a Deputy Sheriff, Buck Chamberlain was cook for the Rangers. Sergeant John L. Sullivan, with three picked men under him, came to San Saba August 13, 1896. These men were: All R. Maddox and Edgar T. Neal of Company E., stationed at Alice, Texas: Dudley S. Barker of Company B. one of Captain McDonald's men stationed at Amarillo, Texas. Governor Charles Culbertson had called these men from over the State. Duc Barker afterwards became Sheriff of Pecos county, Texas. and is the only survivor (1949). Edgar T. Neal (deceased February 3, 1946) afterwards became Sheriff of San Saba county, Texas, and held this office some sixteen years. In May, 1897, these four Rangers were re-inforced by Captain McDonald with eight men, namely: Van Lane, Billy Mc-Cauley, Ed Donnelly, afterwards called the Ranger Doctor, and cured some severe cases of rheumatism without medicne. Bob McClure, afterwards a grocery merchant of Brady, Texas, George Thomas, Jack Harley and Eugene Bell. Two of these Rangers afterwards married San Saba girls. Edgar T. Neal married Maud Montgomery, daughter of Uncle Cal Montgomery, and Dudley S. Barker Lilly Campbell, daughter of Ed Campbell, Sr.

U. T. Chamberlain served as a peace officer forty-two years, this was not only a remarkable length of time for a man to carry the burden of enforcing the law but when it is considered that during a part of this time (and not a short time, either) San Saba county was overrun by a big ruthless mob, and that Buck Chamberlain went through all unscathed, and without blemish to his character, it is almost miraculous. He served as Deputy Sheriff under S. B. Howard, Jack Hawkins, Edgar T. Neal, Hugh Miller and Wiley B. Urquhart, and was also elected Justice of the Peace in Precinct No. 1. It is said that he had a keen mind for solving criminal puzzles.

The wife, Frances Williamson-Chamberlain, was born in Williamson county, Texas, December 13, 1849, and departed this life December 20, 1920, at her home at San Saba, Texas, and rests at Wallace Creek Cemetery.

A few years before Buck Chamberlain's death he was paralyzed in the lower limbs and confined to his room. His daughter, Mary Chamberlain, and daughter-in-law, Mrs. Annie Taylor-Chamberlain, were his faithful nurses till death came October 23, 1939. The body was laid to rest in San Saba Cemetery. The funeral was had at his home in San Saba, and conducted by the Rev. A. G. Beam, Cumberland Presbyterian minister at San Saba, assisted by Rev. A. C. Nance, Church of Christ minister at Comanche, Texas. Music for the occasion was a quartet, consisting of Mrs. J. H. Baker, Mrs. Worth Doran, Dr. H. V. Felts and M. W. Trussell, accompanied by Mrs. L. T. Smith.

The District Court closed during the funeral services, in order that the Judge and Attorneys could attend the rites.

The pallbearers were: Will H. Doran, Will Perry, Dr. C. M. Oliver, W. W. Mitchell, Floyd Sloan and Kelly Owen. Honorary pallbearers were: M. R. Weatherby of Ft. Worth, Texas: John Burnett of Goldthwaite, Texas: John and Ed Gibbons of Richland Springs, Texas; W. H. Franklin, John F. Campbell, both of San Saba, Texas; Dudley S. Barker of Ft. Stockton, Texas; Hon. Knight Rector, J. Mitch Johnson, Huts Owen, the three of San Saba, Texas; Dor Brown of Georgetown, Texas; Judge Dolan of Georgetown, Texas; Rufe Thornton, Judge W. A. Smith, Whitt Longley, the three of San Saba, Texas; Dr. B. D. D. Greer, Rev. T. J. Tanner, both of San Antonio, Texas; Rev. A. C. Mace of Comanche, Texas; W. V. Dean, Ed Hawkins, Wilson Shook, Stacy Oliver, Houston Chadwick, the five of San Saba, Texas; Rila Roberds of Algerita, Texas; N. W. Prentice of Richland Springs, Texas; R. P. Ironsides of Tulsa, Okla.; Hugh Miller of San Saba county; J. R. Polk of Algerita, Texas; Edgar T. Neal of Austin, Texas; Arch Woods, Dave Chadwick, both of San Saba, Texas; Judge Lamar Thaxton of Mason, Texas; Hon. Dayton Moses of Ft. Worth, Texas; Judge G. A. Walters, T. Y. Elton, Judge J. B. Harrell, the three of San Saba, Texas; J. R. Ellis, W. R. Baxter, Henry Taylor, Jym A. Sloan, the four of San Saba county, Texas; Fentress Thomson, San Marcos, Texas: R. S. Bryan, Temple, Texas; Will A. Oliver, San Saba, Texas; Hiram Locker. Locker, Texas; Clarence Harkey, Alex Moore, San Saba,

Texas; H. Tom Speake of Richland Springs, Texas; Stonie Taylor, San Saba county, Texas; Thos. A. Murray, Clay Kuykendall, Ed E. Fagg, Will C. Carroll, Clarence Dofflemyer, the five of San Saba, Texas; Wayne Bennett, Andrew E. Petty, Carl Bryant, Robert Sloan of San Saba, Texas; A. Burton Reagan, Brady, Texas; Mose E. Millican, San Saba county, Texas; Judge R. Elmer Gray, Austin, Texas; Judge Raymond Gray, Andy H. Hill, Will R. Harris, James T. McConnell, W. H. Kimbrough, the five of San Saba, Texas; Lon Allen of Austin, Texas; Henry Bellah of Childress, Texas; Louis D. Bryan of Temple, Texas; Davis Dean of Cherokee, Texas; Dr. A. T. Williamson of Brownwood, Texas; Hon. Burney B. Braley of Ft. Worth, Texas; Pat Kennedy of San Saba county, Texas.

JOHN MARTIN DICKASON was a native of Titus county, Texas, having been born in that county on March 22, 1843, and departed this life at the age of 66 years in 1909 at his home at Cherokee, Texas.

He served in the Confederate Army during the Civil War between the C.S.A. and U.S.A. under Sam Bell Maxey in Major Blair's Division at the time the Confederates made the charge May 19, 1863, at the battle of Vicksburg. During his early life he suffered many hardships to which our pioneers were subjected.

In 1875 John Martin Dickason and Lizzie Mosley-Dickason were united in marriage in Hunt county, Texas. They moved to Shackleford county, Texas, in 1878, and from here they moved to Louisiana where they lived six years. Of their many locations none were entirely satisfactory. In 1890 they moved to and settled on Wallace Creek, San Saba county, Texas. Mr. Dickason had swapped land in Throckmorton county, Texas, to John Allen Taylor for the Wallace Creek place. He retired from active business in 1908, selling his Wallace Creek home and buying one in Cherokee, same county. In 1909 death claimed him. Funeral services were conducted by his pastor, the Rev. J. Polk Burke, a Baptist Minister of Cherokee, and his body laid to rest there. He was a farmer-stockman, but directed his attention more to livestock than to farming.

The wife, Elizabeth Mosley-Dickason, was a native of

Chickasaw county, Mississippi, born there April 2, 1859, survives her husband at this date, November, 1945, and lives at Cherokee, in San Saba county.

Children were four in number, namely: James Dickason; Lulu Dickason, new Mrs. Ben Harkey, lives with her husband on Wallace Creek near the old parental home; Maud Dickason, now Mrs. Arch Young; Annie Mae Dickason, who married Dudley Jester.

HARRY LUSTY was born in London, England, and while still a young man, with his brother, Morris Lusty, came to Limestone county, Texas, and here these hard working Englishmen met the Speer sisters, Cora and Ella, and Morris, as has been related, married Cora and Harry married Ella. The children of Harry and Ella Lusty were Edwin Lusty, Leo Lusty, Clyde Lusty, Herbert Lusty. One day in 1916, in the absence of their parents, Edwin, Clyde and Herbert built a fire in the cook stove, using kerosene for kindling, an explosion took place, killing Clyde and Edwin instantly, and the night following Herbert died. So out of four children, Harry and Ella Lusty had but one left, Leo.

Harry Lusty followed the occupation of farming and stock raising, his home was on Billie's Branch, adjoining his brother, Morris Lusty's place, but lower down on the creek.

Other children were: Ona Lusty, who married Dee Woods, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Woods, a descendant of a pioneer family of San Saba county; Albert and Alvin were twins.

Harry Lusty rests in the Wallace Creek Cemetery; Mrs. Lusty, sometime after her husband's death, re-married, this time to Jim Moore; they live at the old Lusty homestead.

S. S. (TOAD) CHAMBERLAIN

Toad Chamberlain came from Williamson county, Texas, to San Saba county about 1879, possibly a little later. He engaged in farming, met and married Josephine Kinkaid, daughter of James and Jane Kinkaid of Wallace Creek. He bought a small tract of good land near Squire

Tippin, farmed it successfully, and rapidly grew in favor with his neighbors and the citizens of San Saba county. In the 1880's he ran for County Commissioner in Precinct No. 1, and easily won the race. S. S. Chamberlain took great interest in the schools of the county. The little picket school house built by Thomas Wilson and Matt Mann near the mouth of Latham Creek and called Lonesome Dove school house, he was instrumental in having it torn down and in its place a substantial box house built, and renamed Pebbly Point school house.

To S. S. Chamberlain and Josephine Kinkaid-Chamberlain were born three children: Dea, Wille (F), Tollie (F).

While yet in the prime of manhood, Toad Chamberlain was stricken with appendicitis, a surgeon made a successful operation, but complications set up and death claimed his own.

"Toad" and Josephine Chamberlain are buried in Wallace Creek Cemetery, San Saba county, Texas.

"Toad" Chamberlain was a brother of "Buck" Chamberlain, previously spoken of in this volume.

MORRIS LUSTY: A native of England, having been born in London, England, December 2, 1865. He and his brother, Harry Lusty, came to Limestone county, Texas, in 18—, there met and afterwards married Miss Cora Spears. He and wife and children moved to Billie's Branch, a tributary of Wallace Creek from the west, in 1900, having bought out D. C. Click a short time previously. This place was located on the old San Saba and Mason road, now discontinued as such. Morris Lusty engaged in farming and livestock raising, was known as an honest, thrifty citizen. That dread scourge, cancer, attacked Mr. Lusty and February 12, 1924, he died and was buried in Wallace Creek Cemetery.

Morris and Cora Lusty had born to them six children: Vernon Lusty, Mittie Lusty, Morris Lusty Jr., Dinah Lusty, Lonnie Lusty, Fairbell Lusty. At this date, March, 1951, all the children are married, have families and living.

JOHN GREEN DISMUKE: Born near Nashville, Tennessee, 1850, married Annie Bell Killetrew in 1873 in Weakley county, Tennessee. Four children were born to them while

living in Tennessee, two boys and two girls. They moved to Texas in 1882 and settled at Senterfitt, Lampasas county, and he taught school till about 1888, moved to San Saba and ran for County Surveyor in the General Election that year, was successful, and served in the capacity as County Surveyor for two terms. In 1893 he moved to the Allen Taylor farm on Wallace Creek and there farmed for some years.

Born to John G. and Annie Bell Killetrew-Dismuke were the following children: Dudley Dismuke, Kage Dismuke, Lizzie Dismuke, Lula Dismuke, Alma Dismuke, Stanley Dismuke, Irene Dismuke.

The wife: Annie Bell Killetrew-Dismuke, was born in 1853 and deceased 1898, he deceased 1922. Both buried in Wallace Creek Cemetery, San Saba county, Texas.

It has been said of J. G. Dismuke that he was not only a good surveyor but one of the best woodsmen to have ever hit San Saba county.

LOUIS STARTZ: Born 1856 and deceased July, 1936. He was a native of Comal county, Texas, of German extraction, and at the early age of twenty years moved to Blanco county, Texas, where he engaged in farming and livestock raising.

Mary Jane Hollman, the wife, was the daughter of a pioneer couple of Bastrop county, Texas, who moved to Blanco county at an early day, and it was here that she and Louis Startz met and married.

In 1898 the Louis Startz family moved to San Saba county and settled on Beasly Hollow, a tributary of Wallace Creek. Mr. Startz bought a good black land upland tract of land. It has been remarked many times that drouth or no drouth Louis Startz never failed to raise a crop of ample proportions for home consumption; also he owned a small herd of cattle which furnished a good supply of milk for family use.

The children of Louis and Mary Hollman-Startz were: Minnie Startz, Emil Startz, now deceased; Effie Startz, Charles Startz, who married Pope Woods, now deceased, the daughter of a well known pioneer family of the Sloan community, they now (1949) own and live on the old Louis

Startz home place; Jeff Davis Startz, Lucinda Startz, Geo. Startz, Louis Startz.

Mary Hollman-Startz died — — — and was buried in Wallace Creek Cemetery. Louis Startz survived his wife till 1936, when he passed to his reward, and rests by the side of his beloved wife in Wallace Creek Cemetery.

HENRY HARRISON JOINER: Born in Butler county, Alabama, April 16, 1850, came to Texas and joined the Texas Rangers. In 1872 he went to Mississippi and married Nancy Ann Nicholds. Here they lived about one year, and one child was born to them. Their next move was back to Texas, and settled on the Gray ranch, Llano county. In 1900 Henry Joiner bought a small tract of land from Tom Rainey on Billie's Branch, a tributary of Wallace Creek, and settled on it. Note: In 1954 Lonnie Lusty owned and lived on this tract.

Wife, Elizabeth Nancy Ann Nicholdson-Joiner, born in Lee county, Miss., March 15, 1849, deceased buried in Wallace Creek Cemetery.

Henry Harrison Joiner deceased January 22, 1934, buried at Wallace Creek Cemetery.

Children: Mattie Joiner, born in Lee county, Miss., 1871, with parents came to Texas a year later, married N. B. Allen, deceased. William Henry (Buck) Joiner, born 1875 in Llano county, Texas, moved to San Saba county 1883, married Kate (Catherine) Turner, farmer and livestock man, he and wife live in Schleicher county, Texas. Berry Hill Joiner, born on Field Creek, Llano county, Texas, 1877, married Florence Taylor, 1903; 1919 the family lived on Wallace Creek and owned their home.

Children: Vera Joiner, married Porter Pearcy; Julia Joiner, unmarried, 1954 she owned and operated a beauty parlor in San Saba; Ellen Joiner, unmarried, lives with her father in San Saba; Myrtle Joiner, married Med Gage; Bennie Joiner, married Bernice Hendricks, they live near Eden, Texas.

While living in Llano and San Saba counties, Henry Joiner's mother made her home with him. She was born July, 1815, and deceased Sept. 10, 1915, being a little over 100 years of age; the body rests in Wallace Creek Cemetery.

HUTS OWEN: Was born March 27, 1842, deceased October 23, 1921, at his home in San Saba, Texas, and buried at San Saba Cemetery. He was a veteran in the Confederate Army. and received a shrapnel wound across the side of his face at the battle of Chickamauga. He and family came to Wallace Creek about 1883, and there resided one year then moved to San Saba. For the most part Huts Owen operated freight wagons from San Saba to Lometa and Goldthwaite. At that time San Saba had no railroad, and her nearest R. R. was Lometa and Goldthwaite on the Santa Fe. Then we had no paved roads and no trucks, railroads and freight wagons did all of the hauling. San Saba was a thriving town of some 2.000 inhabitants, and a rich surrounding ccuntry to be supplied with groceries, hardware, lumber, etc., also the shipment of livestock, especially, and cotton, not a small item, went by rail. The freighter hauled the cotton to the railroad but cattle were driven there.

The wife: Elizabeth Mathis-Owen, born January 6, 1847, and departed this life January 24, 1930. She rests by the side of her husband in San Saba Cemetery. "Aunt Lizzie" was a devout Christian, and active in the work of reforming the ungodly. The Huts Owen family were members of the Methodist Church.

Huts and Elizabeth Owen had born to them five children, namely: Ida Owen, who married John F. Campbell, member of a pioneer family of San Saba county, now both deceased: Fannie Owen, who married Paris Walker, a well known livestock man, and one of four brothers, all from Missouri. He lost his eyesight in 1945, and deceased Saturday, October 22, 1949; Huts Owen Jr., married Weaver of Deer Creek, San Saba county; he operated livestock ranch, bought, sold cattle for years when the New Dealers came into power and plowed up growing cotton, killed pigs, shot down thousands of cattle and did many other foolish things trying to bring the people out of that awful depression. Huts Owen Jr. was one of a number appointed by authority, who went from ranch to ranch or from milk pen to milk pen, with pistol and rifle to execute the condemned cattle. The money paid by the Federal Government to the owners of the condemned cattle was only a pittance as compared to the prices paid for cattle today

(1949), but the cattle were killed with the consent of the owner. Huts Owen also served as Deputy Sheriff under Sheriff Will H. Doran in the 1940's. Elizabeth Owen, who married — — Brown, and lives at San Saba. There was one other child, Robert Owen, but we do not know where he should be placed, as to the births of the Owen children.

MILES ARMSTRONG SMITHHART was born April 2, 1861, and deceased July 7, 1907. Miles Smithhart was a native of Burnet county, Texas. His parents came from Travis county, Texas, in 1858 and settled in Burnet county, Texas, and remained there till old age and died there.

The parents: Miles Smithhart Sr. was born February 7, 1827, near Jackson, Miss. He chose a Texas girl for wife, Miss Nannie Alice Townson, of near Columbus, Texas. She was born March 2, 1837, and at the age of sixteen years she married the young Mississippian, Miles Smithhart, December 8, 1853. Miles and Alice Smithhart owned their home in Burnet county. In those days large families was the rule. They had born to them fourteen children, nine of whom lived to be grown, and three at this date (1947) still living, namely: Mrs. Smithhart-Evans of Houston, Texas, is in her 90's; Mrs. Dora Smithhart-Stinnett of Hull, Texas, is past eighty; Waddie Smithhart of San Antonio, Texas.

At the age of eighty-three years death called Alice Smithhart. Those years sat lightly, for her beautiful suit of raven locks had not changed color, but were just as bright and youthful looking as they were 67 years before on her wedding day. These good people were of the Methodist persuasion.

Miles Armstrong Smithhart and Mollie Ann Simmons, both of Burnet county, Texas, were married at her home June 16, 1886, and the next year, 1887, moved to Wallace Creek, San Saba county, Texas. Here Mr. Smithhart bought a good piece of land, erected a comfortable home, building near the school house, for the benefit of his children. 1887 will long be remembered as the driest year in San Saba county's history; at least, so far as white man knows. The settlers of Wallace Creek did not raise enough corn for seed. At Rock Shoales (now Sloan) A few miles west of Wallace Creek, a considerable acreage of farm land was

under irrigation, produced bountiful crops of corn, cotton and most anything else that a farmer cared to plant, notwithstanding the drouth, and here it was that Wallace Creek people, as well as many others, got seed corn for next year. This is a reminder of Civil War days, when A. J. Rose owned the Walnut Springs, dammed them into a lake, using the impounded water to operate a grist and saw mill and to irrigate 70 acres of fine land. People came as far away as adjoining counties to have wheat and corn ground into flour and meal. They called this place then Egypt.

Although the drouth prevented the people from making a living farming. Miles Smithhart had other resources to fall back on. He was young, he was strong, he was willing, and he knew how. San Saba county, always a ranching country, at this time was operated almost exclusively by cowboys and cowponies, this being so, the cowboy and the cowpony were indispensable. Cowponies had to be broken to ride and trained to go round cattle. The Texas cowpony had lots of Spanish blood, lots of pep and vinegar and a spirit that could not be broken. The idea was to train the horse so he would be rideable and dependable but never to break his spirit. Horse-breakers were called bronco busters. Such a man was Miles Smithhart. In addition to being a good horse trainer he was equally good at handling cattle. Now, more than ever before, he broke broncos and did work on nearby ranches. One of these ranches was the J T ranch, owned and operated by the late T. A. Sloan.

To Miles and Mollie Smithhart five children were born. 1. Oliver Smithhart; 2. Owen Smithhart; 3. Archie Smithhart; 4. Hubert Smithhart; 5. Albert Smithhart, who died in 1894; also that same year, later on, Mollie Smithhart passed to her reward.

On Dec. 21, 1896, Miles Smithhart and Nannie E. Robbins, widow of Abel Robbins, were married at her home, which later became the property of Henry Behrens.

Miles Smithhart was a busy man. He kept his wife's pasture stocked with cattle and horses, tilled the farm on the place, also the farm on his own place, broke and trained horses round about for the ranchmen, and in winter drove a four horse freight wagon between San Saba and Goldth-

waite. Then San Saba had no railroad, public roads were worked by the people under overseers a few days in the year and where one dollar was spent on roads then one thousand dollars are spent now. In wet winters the roads got very muddy and in places there were bog holes. For this reason freighters went in gangs. A loaded wagon got stuck in a bog hole, instead of unloading, the gang came to help by doubling teams and so pulling the stuck wagon clear from the bog.

Miles Smithhart's home was noted as a gathering place for his friends and neighbors. He was of a generous nature, friendly and kind to all creatures as well as mankind. His step-daughter, Mrs. Clyde Hayes, says that he was a kind father and a generous provider for his large family.

To Miles Armstrong Smithhart and Nannie Elizabeth Robbins-Smithhart were born six children, namely: 1. Ernest Smithhart; 2. Iva Smithhart, who married John Mc-Kown, a descendant of an old pioneer family; 3. Arthur Smithhart; 4. a son who died when three days old; 5. Stella

May Smithhart.

After 14 weeks illness Miles Smithhart, on July 7, died and rests in the Wallace Creek Cemetery. March 13, 1908, Owen Smithhart died from an attack of pneumonia and three days later his brother, Archie Smithhart, died from same cause. Miles A. Smithhart had been converted to the Christian religion at an early age and joined the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. His father, Miles Smithhart Sr., born near Jackson, Miss., Feb. 27, 1827, on Dec. 8, 1853, married Nannie Alice Townsend, who was born March 2, 1837, near Columbus, Texas. She was granddaughter of Capt. Jesse Burnam, an early settler of Burnet county. Mrs. Burnam lived to be 83 and her hair was then black and glossy as it was on her wedding day.

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